Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-183
Wednesday
21 September 1988

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-183 *21 September 1988*

CONTENTS

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Human Rights Commission Group Continues Visit 1
Meets Higher Education Minister 1
Talks to Public Health Minister 1
Rights Group Demonstrates *[AFP]* 1
UK Asked To Clarify Incident Involving Diplomats 1
Commentary Terms Defense 'Sacred Mission' 1
Castro Named Honorary Pelota Committee Member 2
Risquet Meets Lebanese Communist Delegation 2
Malmierca Speaks at Economic Conference 2
Culture Minister Ends Visit to CSSR 2
Fisheries Talks With Mexico End; Accord Reached 2
Communications Union Organizing Group Revamped 2

Bahamas

Prime Minister Pindling Returns From Jamaica 3

Dominican Republic

Acting Foreign Minister Meets Haiti's Namphy 3
Former President Jorge Blanco Faces Charges 3
Trial To Begin In Absentia 3

Haiti

Gen Avril Promotes, Retires Generals *[AFP]* 3
Abraham To Head Armed Forces *[AFP]* 4
Avril Calls for Calm 4
Soldiers Dismiss Commanders, Appoint New Ones 4
Soldiers Call for Democracy *[AFP]* 4
More on New 4th Company Head 5
Removals Sought in Gonaives 5
Gonaives Supports Enlisted Men 6
Naval Personnel Remove Navy Commander *[AFP]* 6
Manhunts, Lynchings in Capital Reported 6
Strikes at State Flour Mill, Power Company 6
Labor Unrest, 'Uprooting' Spread 7
PUCH Says U.S. Meddling on Paul Extradition 7
Evidence Against Paul Demanded 7

Jamaica

Hurricane Recovery, Damage Assessment Continue 8
Electricity, Water Priorities 8
Manley Talks to Diplomats on Aid 8
IDB: Economic Prospects 'Moderately Favorable' 8

St Lucia

Foreign Minister Reacts to Haitian Coup 9

St Vincent and the Grenadines

Venezuela's Lusinchi on 24-Hour State Visit 9
Mitchell Calls for Closer Ties 10

MEXICO

Official on Damage From Hurricane Gilbert 11
Cuban Ship Search Continues 11

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Officials on Contras' Presence at Hospitals 12

El Salvador

Ungo Presents Outline of Party Platform 12

Honduras

Azcona on U.S. Bases, Attending Summit, Budget 12

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Talks With Contras 13
Government-Contra Prisoner Release Agreement *[ACAN]* 18
RN To Ask U.S. for 'Urgent' Military Aid *[ACAN]* 19
Protest Sent to Costa Rica on Contra Hospital 19
D'Escoto on Hopes for Next U.S. Administration 20

Panama

FDP Urges Public Employees To Go to Work *[CRITICA 20 Sep]* 20
Workers Occupy Church Office 20
Union Head: Strike To Continue 21
CRTP Warns Government 21
Solis To Report 'Aggressions' in UN Speech *[MATUTINO 20 Sep]* 21

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Caputo Elected UN General Assembly President 22
Air Force Commander on Pampa Planes, Condor II 22
Military Source on Rocket 22
Christian Democrats Vote To Support Menem *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 19 Sep]* 22
Intransigent Party Endorses Justicialist Ticket 23

Bolivia

Cabinet Tenders Resignation to President Paz 23
Resignation Letter 23
4 Ministers Replaced 24
Central Bank President Reports on Foreign Debt *[PRESENCIA 14 Sep]* 24
Correction to COMIBOL Suspends Strike 25

Brazil

Business, Workers on Solution to Economic Crisis 25

Chile

Government Urges Democrats To 'Stop and Reflect' 25
CUT Leader: Group To Work for No-Vote Victory *[EFE]* 26
Santiago Carabineros Communique on Rallies 26
PCCh Leader Teitelboim Arrives in Santiago 27

Colombia

Venezuelan Consul in Medellin Wounded by Gunmen *[AFP]* 27

Ecuador

Texaco Manager on Government Oil Decision *[AFP]* 27

Peru

Foreign Minister Leaves for Venezuela, U.S. 28

Guyana

Brazilian Foreign Minister Sodre Visits 28
Holds Talks With Jackson 28
On Venezuela Border Dispute 28
Witnesses Mine Pact Signing 29

Cuba

Human Rights Commission Group Continues Visit

Meets Higher Education Minister

FL2009131488 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The delegation from the UN Human Rights Commission, which is visiting Cuba at the invitation of the government, met in Havana with Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret. The delegation, headed by Alioune Sene, also met with students.

Talks to Public Health Minister

FL2009192388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Human Rights Commission group visiting Cuba met today with Public Health Minister Julio Teja at Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital in Centro Habana municipality in the capital. Afterward, the members of the commission, which is headed by Senegal's Alioune Sene, toured wards of the psychiatric hospital where they saw the attention that is given to the patients in that care center.

Rights Group Demonstrates

PA2009225888 Paris AFP in Spanish 2219 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Havana, 20 Sep (AFP)—A group of approximately 50 people waiting to be interviewed demonstrated loudly at the hotel where the Geneva-based Human Rights Commission group visiting Cuba is working. This is the first time an incident of this nature has taken place since the commission arrived in Cuba on Friday.

According to the demonstrators, one or two men were arrested, but it is not clear if they were arrested because of the incident, as the police did not intervene during the demonstration. It was not possible to obtain confirmation of the arrests from the government officials present at the hotel.

The demonstrators shouted: Long live liberty, democracy, Armando Valladares (a former Cuban political prisoner who is one of the U.S. delegates at the Geneva commission), and Ricardo Bofill, who heads the Cuban human rights committee that is not recognized by the Cuban Government.

The demonstrators also shouted: Long live Alioune Sene, the Geneva commission president who heads the group visiting Havana. The loud incident took place when the commission's entourage of cars arrived at the hotel after visiting public health institutions.

UK Asked To Clarify Incident Involving Diplomats

PA2109145388 Havana International Service in Spanish 0010 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] In the third part of an editorial on the anti-Cuban provocation in London on 12 September, the newspaper GRANMA stressed that Cuba demands a political reply from Great Britain to clarify the incident. The official organ of the Communist Party of Cuba described some of the British media as treacherous due to the fact that in recent days they have published stories to cover up with disinformation the aggression against Carlos Medina Perez, the third secretary of the Cuban Embassy in London.

GRANMA referred in particular to an article by Timothy Eggar, under secretary of the British Foreign Office, who (?used) the incident to order the expulsion of Medina Perez and Cuban Ambassador Oscar Fernandez Mell. To Eggar's statement that foreign diplomats must either obey British laws or leave the country, GRANMA replied that it seems London wants foreign representatives to accept the provocative joint operations by the CIA and British intelligence as legal acts.

Commentary Terms Defense 'Sacred Mission'

FL2009183688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the past few weeks some people in the United States have been making plenty of noise about Cuba's military capacity. The American Government itself has classified us as one of the most militarized countries in the world; they even gave figures. We have, according to Washington, more than 250,000 people under the flag and 1.5 million in the militias. A 3 September AP dispatch cites the State Department as saying that in Latin America only Brazil, with a population 3 times larger than Cuba's, has an army comparable to ours. Another source, THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY, says that Cuba has 250 combat aircraft as opposed to Canada's 45 and 950 tanks to Canada's 114. The magazine article, written by L. John Hyde Williams, also states that by 1986 [as heard] Cuba would have approximately 1.5 million men and women, distributed in some 1,000 regiments, armed and trained in the territorial troop militias.

According to the author, not even Japan, in the summer of 1945, was as well prepared to repel an invasion. These are some of the stories being spread that assume a colossal force. We will not confirm or deny it; we will leave that worry to the enemy. The curious thing is that none of these periodicals mention the cause that determines Cuba's defensive capabilities. There is no doubt that we have a powerful Armed Forces and a territorial defense system that is certain of victory. Speaking with complete clarity, if this were not the case, we would have

been swallowed by the empire. So, they can make all the noise they want. The country will always have defense as its most sacred mission and that task will never be abandoned or taken lightly.

Castro Named Honorary Pelota Committee Member
FL2109022688 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today was named a member of the honorary committee of the Pelota World Championship, which will be held in our country in 1990.

During a meeting held at the International Hall of the Riviera Hotel in Havana, the organizing committee was also announced. The committee is headed by Conrado Martinez, INDER [National Institute for Sports, Physical Education and Recreation] president.

Guillermo Marero, national commissioner for court sports, said that this will be the best organized and most well attended Pelota world championship [word indistinct] celebrated. Eleven countries have already confirmed their participation. He added that among those countries are Argentina, Spain, Mexico, the United States, France, and Cuba. There will be nine categories of competition, said Marero.

Risquet Meets Lebanese Communist Delegation
FL2009161588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat, has had a fraternal meeting with the Lebanese Communist Party delegation headed by Politburo member (Faruq Daruks). During the meeting, they made a broad analysis of the international situation, especially the dramatic situation in Lebanon. They also discussed the heroic struggle of the Palestinians against Zionist occupation. The Lebanese delegation is in Cuba as the guest of the PCC.

Malmierca Speaks at Economic Conference
FL2009134888 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Cuba affirmed that Latin America's only solution to its foreign debt problem is unity. The statement was made in Caracas by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca before the 14th SELA Conference. Malmierca reaffirmed Cuba's support on this theme during a discussion session at the Latin American and Caribbean Conference.

In another part of his speech he said that more than 113,000 people in the subcontinent have been alienated from consumption in a situation of complete subhuman subsistence. Malmierca added that in the last 6 years the region has lost more than $145 million, a setback to its development.

Later, he said we cannot and should not continue disbursements. The solutions offered by the Monetary Fund and those of Secretary James Baker call for individual solutions. These solutions have no future and are eloquent examples of neocolonialism at the end of this century.

Culture Minister Ends Visit to CSSR
FL2009134988 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart is returning to Cuba after a 3-day visit to Prague, the capital of the CSSR. Hart said that socialist countries will develop a common strategy against world cultural problems during a meeting that will be held in Havana in October.

Fisheries Talks With Mexico End; Accord Reached
FL2109013788 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] The annual Cuban-Mexican fisheries meeting has ended in Havana with the agreement that more than 40 Cuban ships will be allowed to catch approximately 4,300 tons of high-quality fish in Mexican waters next year. This type of exchange has been taking place for the past 12 years, and on this occasion it includes the creation of various scientific-technical projects beneficial to the two nations. Lic Pedro Ojeda Paullada, Mexican secretary of fisheries, made important statements to the press.

[Begin Ojeda Paullada recording] Relations between Cuba and Mexico are exemplary, and the agreements we have signed are totally complied with. Furthermore, those agreements are public; there is nothing secret about them. They are available for review by anyone who is interested in seeing them. That is why we are absolutely certain Cuba has never violated the agreements in any way. [end recording]

Communications Union Organizing Group Revamped
FL2009033088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Organizing Committee for the Fourth Congress of the National Communications Workers Union was restructured during a meeting held at the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] national headquarters. The commission was presided over by Augustin Lopez Gomez, and the members elected are Roberto Fernandez, Paulino Mesa, and Roberto Cruz.

It was affirmed that all measures will be taken to hold the Fourth Congress of Communications Workers in February 1989.

Bahamas

Prime Minister Pindling Returns From Jamaica

FL2009164688 Bridgetown CANA in English 2317 GMT 19 Sep 88

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Sept 19, CANA—Bahamian Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling on Monday returned home after a near two-day visit to neighbouring Jamaica where he had a look at the extensive damage done to that island by Hurricane Gilbert.

Sir Lynden arrived in Jamaica on Saturday aboard a chartered Bahamasair 737 jet laden with food and other relief supplies. The Bahamian prime minister, who met briefly with Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga, was the first head of state to visit the hurricane-ravaged island.

On his return to Nassau, Sir Lynden said he intended to offer further assistance to Jamaica.

Dominican Republic

Acting Foreign Minister Meets Haiti's Namphy

FL2009123888 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1006 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Deposed [Haitian] General Henri Namphy has told the acting Dominican foreign secretary he will not speak to the press on the coup that sent him into exile.

The foreign secretary, Ambassador Fabio Herrera Cabral, relayed Namphy's position to national and international journalists in the Dominican Concorde Hotel, where Namphy is staying with his family.

Gen Namphy told Herrera Cabral that he will not make any statements to the press in order to avoid having them used against the Dominican Republic's foreign policy.

The Dominican Government is expecting an announcement regarding the installation of the new Haitian military government.

Acting Foreign Secretary Herrera Cabral told journalists that Gen Namphy was seen as a financially poor man.

President Namphy is a poor man. He has his home in Haiti. If I knew [words indistinct], that is my opinion, said the Dominican foreign secretary after meeting with the deposed Haitian leader.

Former President Jorge Blanco Faces Charges

FL2009180388 Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish 0930 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Dr (Marino Vinicio Castillo, "Pincho") [president of the National Progressive Force] has called former President Salvador Jorge Blanco a fugitive and he said that his wife, (Asela Mena de Jorge), is here to justify her husband's situation at the trial beginning today in his absence on charges of corruption.

The jurist and political leader said that Mrs Jorge is appearing before the court to present a medical excuse that will delay proceedings because this cannot be done by attorneys.

Dr (Vinicio Castillo) said that for trials in absentia, Article 389 of the penal code does not allow attorneys to appear on behalf of the defendant. He also said that in Jorge Blanco's case there is no political persecution, since those who accuse him are Ramiro Matos and Cuervo Gomez [former interior-police and Armed Forces secretaries, respectively, under Jorge Blanco], as well as other former high-ranking civilian and military officials in his own government.

In reference to the surprise arrival of Mrs Jorge, (Vinicio Castillo) said that the former first lady of the Dominican Republic is here to justify her husband's absence with a medical excuse in order to delay the legal process.

Trial To Begin In Absentia

FL2009185688 Santo Domingo Tele-Radio Noticias Television and Radio Network in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The trial against former Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco will begin today with the presence of his wife.

Jorge Blanco and other former officials are accused of many acts of corruption during their term in office.

Great anticipation has resulted from this case since this will be the first time that the present generation will observe a public trial with verbal and contradictory testimony against a former president charged with corruption.

The spokesman for the Seventh Criminal Court, Juan Maria Federino, will begin the trial against Jorge Blanco in absentia. The other defendants will be present.

Expectations have increased now that the wife of the former president will be present at the Seventh Criminal Court.

Haiti

Gen Avril Promotes, Retires Generals

PA2109044988 Paris AFP in Spanish 0423 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Sep (AFP)—A government communique has reported that eight Haitian generals linked to General Henri Namphy's military regime were retired tonight by General Prosper Avril, the new president.

The eight generals are: Major Generals Carl Michel Nicolas, former commander in chief of the Army; Wilthan Lherisson, his assistant; Williams Regala, former interior and defense minister; Brigadier Generals Fritz Antoine, former justice minister; Gregoire Figaro, former Port-au-Prince police chief; Morton Gousse; Louis Thony H.; and Cecilio Dorce, former national education minister.

Colonel Jean Clervil Mallet was also retired by Gen Avril. General Herard Abraham, who was appointed acting commander in chief of the Army, was promoted to major general.

Observers point out that this means that the post of commander in chief of the Armed Forces remains vacant, something which would eventually permit Gen Avril to turn over his current functions to an elected civilian president.

Colonels Max Valles, Gerard Lacrete, and Andre Jean-Pierre were promoted to brigadier general, with the positions of Army inspector general, chief of the General Staff, and adjutant general of the Armed Forces, respectively.

Abraham To Head Armed Forces

PA2009165888 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Sep (AFP)—The new Haitian President, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, today appointed Brigadier General Herard Abraham as the new commander of the Haitian Armed Forces and promoted him to major general.

During a brief ceremony at the National Palace, Gen Avril called on his officers and men to be calm. Since Sunday, four unit commanders have been ousted by their subordinates.

Maj Gen Abraham, who was foreign minister until the coup on Saturday, is considered one of the most liberal senior officers.

Sergeant Joseph Hebreux, leader of the officers and enlisted men who staged the coup, was present at the ceremony and was applauded by the civilians in attendance.

Avril Calls for Calm

FL2009185488 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Just before going on the air, the president of the Republic, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, went on television to announce that a new chief of staff ad interim had been appointed: Colonel Herard Abraham, who has been promoted to the rank of Major General. You will listen to this statement immediately after the following commercials. [passage omitted] Just before going on the air, we watched Haitian President Lt Gen Avril over RTNH-Television making the statement that you are now going to hear.

[Begin Avril recording] Aware of the many problems, particularly those concerning the commanding officers and those concerning daily service, that the officers and enlisted men of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] are confronting, the president of the military government advises them that all necessary measures to find appropriate solutions to these problems have been taken.

Consequently, he asks them to remain calm and not to adopt an attitude that might expose the institution to gratuitous criticism and affect the spirit of unity and solidarity that this new government is seeking.

He furthermore informs them that important measures of conservation [mesures conservatoires] are currently being studied, with a view to satisfying the most urgent demands of the members of the FADH while waiting to study (?their) principal problems thoroughly with work groups from the military organizations.

From the National Palace, 20 September 1988. [end recording]

This proclamation comes a few hours after the winds of uprooting [dechoucage] began blowing in several Haitian Army units, among them the Leopards camp, the airfield, and the 4th Company.

Soldiers Dismiss Commanders, Appoint New Ones

FL2009154988 [Editorial Report] Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole at 1100 GMT on 20 September cites a report from its Mirebalais correspondent that soldiers had decided to arrest the Mirebalais Garrison chief. The name is given as Francois Simeon. According to the correspondent, Simeon "managed to flee and apparently the soldiers did not have time to slap the handcuffs on him. However, they are out looking for him and there has been shooting going on since this morning in the area."

In a report monitored in progress at 1425 GMT, Soleil says that to date, four commanders have been removed following Sunday's coup d'etat: the commander of an airfield, Gesner Bruno; the head of the Leopard Corps, the anti-guerrilla battalion; the commander of the 4th Company in Port-au-Prince; and Simeon in Mirebalais.

Soldiers Call for Democracy

PA2009134988 Paris AFP in Spanish 1305 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Sep (AFP)—Two new Haitian Army commanders were dismissed by their troops, who appointed other officers to replace them, according to statements made to AFP this morning by some of the troops responsible for the dismissals.

The dismissed commanders are Renaud Simbert, of the Port-au-Prince Police's 4th Company, and Simeon Francois, chief of the Mirebalais Garrison in central Haiti.

The soldiers told AFP: "We will establish democracy once and for all, and we will rid the Army of Duvalier, Namphy, and Manigat supporters."

More on New 4th Company Head

FL2009193288 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The soldiers of the 4th Company of the Port-au-Prince Police this morning canned their commander, Major Renaud Simbert, whom they drove away in a car and dropped off at the Haitian Armed Forces General Headquarters. The soldiers accuse the commander of having mistreated them in the past—of punishing them, or firing them without reason. It seems that the soldiers have chosen Captain Jean Lamy as Major Simbert's replacement. It also seems the new commander's assistant will be Sub-Lieutenant Moise Duperval.

We interviewed a few soldiers from that company. Let's listen to what they told us.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] [Passage omitted] We of the 4th Company are determined to have real change. We are determined not to have a dictatorship. We will get rid of all the [words indistinct]. We have taken our stand. We will get rid of them. [end recording]

You just heard the soldiers of the 4th Company of the Port-au-Prince Police, who this morning canned their commanding officer, Major Renaud Simbert, driving him to the Haitian Armed Forces General Headquarters in a car and dropping him off there this morning. You just heard the soldiers asking for change. [passage omitted]

Removals Sought in Gonaives

FL2009200388 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] We are going to hear from our correspondent in Gonaives, who is going to tell us how things are in that part of the country, where there have also been movements of uprooting [dechoucage] noted this morning.

[Correspondent Legros] [Passage omitted] Things started heating up in Gonaives at 1040. We went to the Rue (Poltron) area, where we saw a number of small groups beginning to assemble. These people decided to send groups out into the street properly, because everyone knows that Gonaives has never been left behind. It must participate, too. When it is a matter of the country needing freedom, Gonaives must come through. That's how things were.

As we drove around town, we heard a few shots. We went directly to the Toussaint Louverture Barracks, where we heard a great deal of shooting. These shots were an indication the soldiers from the barracks were doing their jobs.

When we contacted them, they told us that they are asking for the immediate departure of the district commander, Jean Esteve Conserve. They are also asking for the immediate departure of Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite.

We noticed, while on the scene, that District Commander Esteve Conserve had fled. He ran off across an ('irrigation ditch) that everyone who knows Gonaives is familiar with, on Avenue des Dattes. He crossed it and got into a small car and escaped.

A demonstration began. The people mingled with the soldiers. They went up the Avenue des Dattes, grinning. They are warming up; they are dancing. They are saying: The victory is ours. It belongs to the soldiers. It is time we got rid of these people, so that the wind of freedom blowing across the country can effect change.

But others demonstrating with the soldiers said they are demanding the immediate removal of the captain [as heard]. They are also demanding the removal of Col Gambetta Hyppolite. They are demanding that Radio Lumiere correspondent (Belfont Aristide) uproot his cassava plants and go away. (Belfont Aristide) was working with these people even before the National Government Council [CNG], and after the CNG took power he collaborated with them shamelessly.

They are also asking the man who heads Zantray [Children of the Haitian Tradition], Herard Simon, to get the hell out of the country because it is he who was planning to set fire to the Catholic Church in Gonaives, the bishopric of Gonaives, and the Church of God. Thus they are also asking him to uproot his cassava plants and get out.

We asked them why. They answered that this is normal because it is time Haiti was freed. We are on the scene and will keep you informed.

Some of the soldiers were in the streets; others were at the barracks. They are very angry. They want their victory [words indistinct].

As regards the captain, we cannot affirm that he is not in town, because he fled from the barracks before we arrived.

This is Radio Metropole in Gonaives. We are on the scene and following events. This is [first name indistinct] Legros.

Gonaives Supports Enlisted Men

FL2009212488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Some 8,000 people in Gonaives have taken to the streets in support of the enlisted men. They also castigated certain civilian bigshots, who they say were in cahoots with the macoute military in town.

[Begin correspondent's recording] [Passage omitted] Some 8,000 people took to the streets chanting very nasty slogans against Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite; Captain Esteve Conserve; (Hughes Bien-Aime), the regional engineer for the transversal region; Zantray President Herard Simon; former macoute Roger Joseph; town Prefect Serge Brutus; Radio Lumiere Correspondent (Belfont Aristide); and a number of other minor macoutes.

The soldiers, who were out with the people, told us these individuals were the ones muzzling the people and obstructing democracy. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Naval Personnel Remove Navy Commander

PA2009222088 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Sep (AFP)—Naval sources reported to AFP by telephone that Navy personnel removed Haitian Navy Commander Colonel Herbert Valmont this afternoon. Valmont was driven "without any violence or further incidents" to general Army headquarters.

The Haitian Army commander in chief proposed that Mayor Ambroise Seide replace Colonel Valmont, and the sailors accepted his proposal, the sources added.

Navy personnel also reported that their complaints and professional demands had been forwarded to Haitian President General Prosper Avril.

Valmont's removal is the eighth dismissal of a military unit commander in Haiti since Sunday.

Manhunts, Lynchings in Capital Reported

FL2009210788 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] There is an uprooting wind blowing in Haiti and in the Army, Rothschild. [passage omitted] Noncommissioned officers and enlisted men have begun hunting down the Criminal Investigations Department men accused of having been responsible for the incidents and massacres of the recent months. They have killed them, or, in certain cases, turned them over to the crowd, which lynched them or stoned them to death.

[Rothschild] Yes, Jacques. A detective from the Port-au-Prince Criminal Investigations Department, Henri Toussaint, was shot and killed by soldiers last night in Port-au-Prince. On 23 July 1987, Toussaint had opened fire on a peaceful women's demonstration in Port-au-Prince, killing Miss (Edlyne Noel) and wounding four others.

Other people were killed in Port-au-Prince yesterday, and their bodies burned by the crowd, which accused them of being followers of former Port-au-Prince Mayor Franck Romain and of having participated in the St Jean Bosco massacre of last 11 September. They were turned over to the crowd by the soldiers.

One of them, named (Kolacha), who was reportedly a Criminal Investigations Department detective, was arrested by the soldiers from the military airfield and turned over to the crowd, which lynched him. His body was burned late yesterday evening, right in front of St Jean Bosco church.

There were also many shots and bursts of gunfire from automatic weapons heard last night in many neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince.

According to what soldiers told AFP, the shooting was by the Army grass roots, which was out looking for those responsible for the bloody incidents of recent months.

There was also shooting in the vicinity of the Dominican Embassy in Petion-Ville, in the hills behind Port-au-Prince. Former Port-au-Prince Mayor Franck Romain and his family, as well as the entourage of the overthrown president, have taken refuge there. A Dominican diplomat said that the building had not been attacked, as rumors circulating last night claimed. He said that everything was perfectly calm around the Dominican Embassy. [passage omitted]

Strikes at State Flour Mill, Power Company

FL2009212188 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Strikes began this morning at a plant of the Minoterie d'Haiti [national flour mill] in (Lafiteau) and at Electricite d'Haiti [EDH, the national electric company], where employees are demanding that the directors—James L. Cartwright and Eng Jean-Claude Souriac, respectively—step down.

Minoterie director Cartwright is accused by the employees of bad management and misappropriation of funds. In statements made to our reporters, Mr Cartwright says he is ready to go before the courts to have his management of the Minoterie examined.

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Unidentified speaker] The day before yesterday he signed a $10,000 check for Mrs Namphy, allegedly for development. But it is a lie. They are making money for themselves. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Do you have proof of this allegation about a $10,000 check?

[Second unidentified speaker] Yes, we already have proof. There are many who have the proof. You will find other people to give you details, because they know the check number and everything. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The same situation exists at EDH, where employees are demanding that director Souriac step down. The employees are also accusing him of mismanagement. [passage omitted] Eng Souriac is still at EDH. He says he is ready to leave. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the house of Mr Jean Gilbert, former president of the second Provisional Electoral Council, in Carrefour was sacked this morning. [passage omitted]

It has also been reported that the soldiers from the military hospital are demanding that the administration step down. At the Port-au-Prince wharf, employees are said to be on strike, too, demanding the resignation of certain officials.

Labor Unrest, 'Uprooting' Spread

FL2009214788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The uprooting movement unleashed the moment General Namphy's government was overthrown in a coup d'etat by the soldiers of the Presidential Guard is spreading nationwide. [passage omitted]

The soldiers from the "Cafeteria" inform all the merchants that they need not be afraid to open their stores, because it is just them doing the shooting, settling their business. Also, these soldiers from the "Cafeteria" ask the masses not to take advantage of the current state of affairs to settle any personal quarrels that they might have with someone. If they have a problem with some armed detective, they should call the nearest police post, and the soldiers will come to their aid. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] [Passage omitted] In order to realize democracy, it is necessary for the Duvalierists to be out of the picture. As long as they are around, commanding and in power, democracy will never be able to get a foothold. [passage omitted] We will deport them to the Army General Headquarters, and if the General Headquarters doesn't do what needs to be done, we will shoot them ourselves. [end recording]

At the National Penitentiary, the soldiers booted out Lieutenant (Paul Joseph) because of the way he has treated them in the past. [passage omitted]

The crowd totally trashed Mr Jean Gilbert's house. According to reports we received, lawyer Jean Gilbert is currently in seventh heaven [allusion to expression used by Gilbert in a television interview to describe his feelings after the 17 January 1988 elections] in Seoul, attending the Olympics. [passage omitted]

There were also protests today at Sonapi, the National Industrial Park Company, where the security guards were protesting against their director, (Wilner Cadet), who took office some 3 months ago. This morning, these security guards and other employees—a group of some 200 people—prevented the director of Sonapi from entering his office. He was forced to turn over the keys to a car he was driving. The guards now have this key. The employees are asking for the return of former director Jean-Marie Fethiere to replace (Cadet). [passage omitted] They say they are willing to talk to the former director, but that they will not deal with anyone who treats them like dogs, with no consideration.

At the Port Authority [buro portuaire], the employees are protesting against the general director, (Roger Perodin). [passage omitted] They are protesting against the entire administrative staff of the Port Authority. They say they just cannot stand them anymore.

PUCH Says U.S. Meddling on Paul Extradition

FL2009195688 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH] issued a communique yesterday, Monday. In it they described the U.S. Government's desire to see Colonel Jean Claude Paul extradited as meddling in the affairs of Haiti and a provocation.

Evidence Against Paul Demanded

FL2009205888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a communique signed by its No 2 man, Max Bourjolly, the PUCH has said that for the dignity of Haiti and the honor of the soldiers and officers of the Haitian Army, it is opposed to Colonel Jean Claude Paul, or any other Haitian citizen, being extradited in order to be tried in the United States.

If the Americans have proof concerning Col Paul, let them send it here, so that a Haitian court can examine the evidence within the framework of the laws of Haiti. Otherwise, Col Paul will not budge an inch, says the PUCH.

Let us explain, for the benefit of our listeners, that there is no extradition treaty between Haiti and the United States.

Jamaica

Hurricane Recovery, Damage Assessment Continue

Electricity, Water Priorities

FL2009144588 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Government of Jamaica considers the restoration of both electricity and water supplies as high-priority items. The Jamaica Public Service [JPS] company has been working around the clock to restore power to the corporate area and other parts of the island.

The major cities of Kingston, Ocho Rios, and Montego Bay are receiving full attention from both the JPS company and the NWC [National Water Commission].

The Jamaica Telephone Company, the JTC, is busily working to try to restore telephone services to all parts of the island in the shortest possible time. The JTC says that although most of its exchanges escaped with minor damage, the system suffered as a result of fallen or broken cables, as well as fallen JPS poles in which JTC cables are attached, and the shifting of radio antennas on transmission towers.

All major population areas are said to be with some telephone service although some areas are transmitting on very weak signals. The JTC also said that in addition to the problems with exchanges and cables, several JTC buildings have been extensively damaged. However, a complete survey and assessment of the damage is currently being undertaken and an estimate is expected by Monday, September 26th.

Manley Talks to Diplomats on Aid

FL2009202888 Bridgetown CANA in English 1506 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept 20, CANA—Former Prime Minister and leader of the opposition People's National Party (PNP), Michael Manley met diplomats Monday as part of an effort to mobilise aid for Jamaica in the wake of massive destruction by Hurricane Gilbert. Manley impressed on diplomats what he saw as a need for doctors and other medical personnel. He said that that Jamaica was badly short of doctors "in times of fair weather" and he was convinced that "by common sense we are going to need considerably more at this time."

Manley also had a breakfast meeting with former Democratic contender for the U.S. Presidency, Jesse Jackson, who was here with two black congressmen to help get a first-hand account of Jamaica's requirements and to push the island's case in Washington. Black Congressman Charles Rangel is to move a bill in Congress Tuesday asking for U.S.100 million dollars in emergency assistance for Jamaica.

Meanwhile, as Manley's PNP and the ruling Jamaica Labour Party make an attempt at a unified front in dealing with the crisis, differences have begun emerging. Manley told diplomats he was "very unhappy" over the fact that food was being distributed from the official residence of the prime minister. He said that Prime Minister Edward Seaga had asked him at a meeting earlier in the day to bear with the administration for another two weeks until a non-partisan mechanism could be put in place.

Seaga has announced that Jamaica Nutrition Holdings, the government agency which administers the school feeding programme, will take over food relief distribution. The government would also do distribution through the food stamp programme to streamline the process, Seaga told reporters Sunday. Food has been distributed through politicians on both sides, but the PNP leader said that the idea of distributing food by means of politicians had aroused suspicions internally, and could send a wrong signal to foreign donors who would be concerned not to have their tax-payers' money used for partisan purposes.

Manley also pointed to the significant impact the hurricane would have on the island's economy, and forecast that this could lead to a worsening of the foreign exchange problem here. He said there was going to have to be a "substantial renegotiation" of targets set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, as well as other lending institutions with which Jamaica has support programmes.

Seaga has already said that Jamaica will seek relaxation of targets with the World Bank and the IMF under the funds' new US114 million dollar credit programme. A World Bank official is to come here this week to begin a full assessment of the damage done to the island's economy.

IDB: Economic Prospects 'Moderately Favorable'

FL2009170088 Bridgetown CANA in English 1554 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Sept 20, CANA—An Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) report describes the short-term economic prospects for Jamaica as "moderately favourable."

The IDB 1988 report on the economic and social progress in Latin America was released on Sunday and therefore features material gathered before that island was ravaged by Hurricane Gilbert just over a week ago.

Jamaica is now reported by government to require up to U.S. 8 billion dollars to help rebuild the country.

The report states that the near term prospects for the country remain "moderately favourable," if the fiscal balance could be maintained and further progress was made in reducing balance of payments constraints. But

the report notes that such progress would be "heavily dependent upon continued, adequate levels of capital inflow, reasonable prices for imported oil, and especially, satisfactory performance of the mining and tourism sectors."

The report places great importance on the tourism industry which contributed an estimated U.S. 595 million dollars last year, with tourist arrivals rising by 8.7 percent from 1986 to surpass the one million mark for the first time.

The report said tourism provided the principal impetus to growth in the Jamaica economy in the last two years, noting that in both the long and short term "tourism will undoubtedly remain Jamaica's dominant economic activity, given its potential for expanding foreign exchange earnings and the rate of job creation."

Tourism executives and government officials are working to restore facilities and services in time for the coming winter season.

The report stressed the need for sustained growth of non-traditional manufactured exports so as to help reduce unemployment, which fell from an average of 26 percent in 1980-85 to 21 percent in April 1987, and increase the size of the domestic market.

In terms of mining, once the island's largest industry, the report sees near-term prospects as "somewhat uncertain" as a result of constraint in production, and it did not expect total mining production for 1988 to surpass the 1987 level of 7.7 million tons.

Economic figures presented by the report are mixed, showing an estimated 4.9 percent increase in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during 1987, an increase in the government's current revenue to 33 percent of GDP from 27.4 percent in previous years, while the current account deficit increased by J86.3 million dollars to J122.1 million dollars from fiscal 1986 to 1987.

There was a 10 percent expansion of total bauxite production to 7.7 million tons, a two percent growth in food production, a 14 percent rise in merchandise exports to J674 million dollars, an increase in line with GDP in real value added to industrial production, increase in exports through the 807 garment programme and an increase in employment in Jamaica's "free zone" from 1,600 in 1982 to 23,400 in 1987.

St Lucia

Foreign Minister Reacts to Haitian Coup

FL2009145688 Bridgetown CANA in English 1408 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Sept 20, CANA—St. Lucia's foreign minister, Neville Cenac, called on Haiti's new military regime to take "all practical steps" to ensure free and fair elections within a reasonable time and in accordance with the island's Constitution.

In a statement here reacting to last weekend's coup, Cenac said that the St. Lucia Government noted with interest the removal of General Henri Namphy from the seat of power.

"We maintain, however, there is no substitute for selection by election, and we feel that the time is opportune to put the democratic structures in place since the February elections were a farce which could not but fail to answer the legitimate expectations of the long suffering people of Haiti" Cenac said.

Namphy, who three months ago ousted elected leader Leslie Manigat was himself thrown out of office by his former colleague, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril on Sunday.

Cenac said government identified the ousted general as being responsible for many atrocities against the people of Haiti and for the rape of the new Constitution.

St Vincent and the Grenadines

Venezuela's Lusinchi on 24-Hour State Visit

FL2009171188 Bridgetown CANA in English 2205 GMT 17 Sep 88

[Text] Kingston, St Vincent, Sept 17, CANA—Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, on a 24-hour state visit to St Vincent and the Grenadines, on Saturday pledged his government's support for an education programme to benefit students from both states.

Addressing the St Vincent and the Grenadines Parliament with the help of his interpreter, the Venezuelan leader, now serving his final year in office, suggested "an ambitious education programme" to teach Spanish here. He proposed that this be combined with an exchange of young people from both countries "studying in our two countries."

Lusinchi was responding to suggestions by Prime Minister James Mitchell for a breakdown in the language barrier between English-speaking St. Vincent and its neighbor. Mitchell first raised the issue on his state visit to Venezuela in March this year, and repeated the call in his address to the special session of Parliament here on Saturday.

Lusinchi said the proposed programme would not only offer Venezuelan and Vincentian students the possibilities to enjoy the study opportunities existing in each others countries, but would also help to break down the language barrier and promote integration.

President Lusinchi and a seven-member delegation flew into St Vincent on Saturday for a busy 24 hours of official and social engagements which also took him to the Grenadine island of Mustique about 25 miles south of here where there is some private Venezuelan investment. He spent an hour and a half on Mustique Saturday

afternoon, will spend Saturday night on St Vincent itself, and return home on Sunday morning. Before he flies out Lusinchi and his party will be taken on a scenic drive through the island's major banana producing district and along the east coast main road.

Mitchell Calls for Closer Ties

FL2009174188 Bridgetown CANA in English 1717 GMT 18 Sep 88

[Text] Kingston, St Vincent, Sept 18, CANA—Prime Minister James Mitchell has called for closer economic ties and trade relations between Venequela and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

"We have missed many opportunities for mutual advantages in trade," Mitchell told a special session of Parliament on Saturday, in honour of visiting Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi. He also highlighted the need for an "increased interflow of resources, both human and material" between the two countries.

"When one looks at the pattern of trade between Venezuela and Caribbean countries, and between Venezuela and the rest of the world, one realises the vast amount of Venezuelan trade that transits the Caribbean Sea, past several major ports in the Caribbean with a negligible amount being transacted with US," Mitchell said.

The Vincentian leader said the creation of a single European Act in 1992 had implications for Caribbean trade, aid and travel, and it was therefore necessary to consolidate relations with neighbours around the Caribbean basin and in Latin America.

Mitchell viewed the recent initiation of flights between Caracas and Kingstown as a positive move and said he looked forward "to the development of these routes, both through charter and scheduled flights."

President Lusinchi was critical of protectionist moves in the international community. Departing from his prepared text, the Venezuelan leader blamed "big industrialised nations" for their protectionist policies. Trade problems could be solved through better Caribbean and Latin American relations, he remarked.

"Inter-relations are really becoming so necessary and the big powers are so selfish that they do not realise that some day we might rebel and that the first act of rebellion will be to develop this inter-relation of trade between us," Lusinchi said.

He noted that on his delegation, there was the president of the Management Association of Venezuela and the head of the Tourism Board, both of whom would examine possibilities for co-operation and exchange with St Vincent and the Grenadines.

President Lusinchi was greeted by thousands of Vincentians who turned up at the Arnos Vale Airport to welcome him and at the House of Assembly in Kingstown on Saturday. He also visited Mustique in the Grendadines and was due to be taken on a drive through the scenic Marriaqua Valley before leaving Sunday.

Official on Damage From Hurricane Gilbert

PA2009214188 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Under Secretary of Government Jorge Carrillo Olea gave an official report on the damage caused by Hurricane Gilbert in Mexico:

[Carillo] "The total number of deaths is approximately 120; however, this is subject to change."

Regarding the total number of casualties, Carrillo said there are no exact figures from the northern region; however, he said thousands of families were left homeless on the Yucatan Penninsula:

[Carillo] "We are talking about approximately 20,000 people in the southeast region. The term casualty is subject to interpretation. We have recognized as casualties—this is an arbitrary definition, but it was necessary to make this clear—those who have lost their houses or means of subsistence."

Carrillo said property damage was high, but a detailed evaluation must be made. He noted Cozumel was the most affected hotel area, while hotels in Cancun suffered minor damage. He added that electricity and telephone services will soon be completely restored. Carrillo reported the hurricane caused severe damage to crops, adding that 100,000 tons of grain may be lost in the affected areas:

[Carillo] "It is very possible that rice production in Campeche was totally lost. The corn harvest was about to begin in three states; however, crops were completely lost in Yucatan and Campeche."

Carrillo, who headed the meeting of the National Civil Protection System [Sistema Nacional de Proteccion Civil], said all federal government agencies are working hard to solve the problems caused by the hurricane. He said the main priorities are restoring electricity and communications, providing potable water, and distributing supplies, mainly material to repair roofs.

Carrillo said that following instructions from the president of the republic, government aid to repair the damage in the affected cities will be decentralized. State governments, through the Planning Committees for State Development, will be responsible for coordinating and carrying out the works, while the federal government will provide the funds and technical advice.

Meanwhile, an air bridge was established between Mexico City and Cancun, Cozumel, and Monterrey to help the casualties. As of yesterday, 960 casualties had been transported from Cancun and Cozumel to other areas, and 94 tons of medicine, food, potable water, tools, clothing, and blankets had been sent to the states affected by Gilbert.

Cuban Ship Search Continues

FL2009163388 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0309 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Mexican naval authorities will continue an intense search for eight Cuban ships that disappeared when they were caught by surprise by Hurricane Gilbert, which hit southeastern Mexico a few days ago.

Rear Admiral Rafael Irigoyen—interviewed at the Interior Secretariat shortly before participating in a national civil defense system meeting to assess the damages caused by the hurricane—explained that in line with the international agreement on the preservation of life at sea, the Mexican Navy is intensifying and sparing no efforts in the search for the ships. Two minesweepers and an Eagle-type vessel with a helicopter have been sent out, but nothing more than a choppy sea full of weeds has been found up to now.

He explained that it is very strange that the hurricane caught the vessels by surprise on the high seas inasmuch as they have radio equipment and their crews are aware of the frequencies in which weather reports are carried not only in Mexico but in Miami, where the hurricane detection center is located.

He said it is strange that they were caught by surprise but that he did not know if it was because of negligence or poor reception. It is also strange, he added, that out of 17 ships they knew about only 9, which were in port at the time of the hurricane. The rest have given no signs of life.

Irigoyen also noted that there is permanent communication with some naval attaches through the Foreign Secretariat with the purpose of locating the crew members of those eight vessels, which may have taken refuge in some Mexican island in the Caribbean.

Costa Rica

Officials on Contras' Presence at Hospitals

PA2009133488 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1223 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Security Minister Hernan Garron has said the operation of a Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] hospital in Curridabat is merely a humanitarian act.

Garron, together with Information Minister Guido Fernandez, Government Minister Antonio Alvarez, and Deputy Health Minister Victor Julio Brenes, held a news conference to explain questions raised about this hospital. In addition, Garron said the government is willing to continue receiving Nicaraguan war casualties for treatment, as it has done so far.

In a press communique read by Information Minister Fernandez, the government stated that after the 7 April visit by Morris Busby, the U.S. special envoy for Central America, our government agreed to a plan under which wounded RN fighters who were already in our country would be treated in our hospitals.

The government's official communique added that Garron and AID implemented the plan and agreed that the wounded would be treated at Social Security hospitals and at the Catholic and Biblical Clinics.

The official communique stated that although Garron did not feel it was necessary to coordinate this with President Oscar Arias and the presidency minister because it was a logical consequence of a duty to treat the ill, at no time was this an arbitrary or secret decision.

The absolutely clean nature of this authorization became evident when the Security Ministry informed the Nicaraguan Embassy about this matter when it had to.

The government's official communique also reported that a recovery center, as Deputy Health Minister Brenes calls it, is being used by wounded RN fighters. It was stated that once the wounded recover, their activities in Costa Rica will be regulated.

El Salvador

Ungo Presents Outline of Party Platform

PA2009205488 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Report by Carlos Mario Marquez on statement by Guillermo Manuel Ungo, leader of the Democratic Merger (CD), at CD headquarters in San Salvador on 20 September]

[Text] The CD presented the platform of its three parties—the National Revolutionary Movement, the Social Christian Popular Movement, and the Social Democratic Party—today during a news conference at the CD's headquarters.

Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo, in presenting this platform to the Salvadoran people, said the following:

[Begin recording] Today, we want to present the CD's platform. As its name indicates, it is not a government program, but a synthesis of the main points we have presented to the various sectors of the Salvadoran people as our political proposal for confronting the present situation that exists within the electoral process framework.

This is a document that is definitive, but not necessarily final. It remains open to proposals, discussion, or comments from the various social sectors regarding their particular interests we feel are important enough to be incorporated into a popular option.

Our platform addresses the four great problems that led to the formation of the CD in our common struggle to find solutions. They are: the state of civil war; the loss of national sovereignty; the lack of real democracy; and the Salvadoran people's state of extreme poverty, which is growing and is greater now than it was 5 years ago.

Finally, we have divided these four points of the platform into two main phases. The first is the state of civil war. We said it is necessary to end the state of war. To us, the other things cannot be achieved without a peaceful solution.

The other things are included in a peaceful solution. The loss of national sovereignty, the lack of a real democracy, and the state of extreme poverty are linked to a peaceful solution. Therefore, this is the main axis of our broad and viable proposal, in which we offer certain steps, certain avenues. We do not have details regarding the entire content, because that is one of our objectives: to seek a national consensus regarding our participation in the political and electoral processes.

The other axis of our platform dealing with the economic, political, and social areas addresses the other problems: the loss of national sovereignty, the lack of real democracy, and the Salvadoran people's extreme poverty.

It is a program that, consequently, is not all-encompassing. It is a program that presents in realistic terms the most urgent and necessary steps needed to establish a popular option differing from the oligarchic option and from the option, or rather lack of options, offered by the Christian Democrats. [end recording]

Honduras

Azcona on U.S. Bases, Attending Summit, Budget

PA2009190288 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1750 GMT 19 Sep 88

[Interview with President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo by unidentified reporters after signing agreement with AID on 19 September; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Will the U.S. bases in Panama be moved to Honduras as was reported?

[Azcona] I keep explaining these issues to the people, but we always return to the same point. I have already said that no U.S. bases are being established here, nor has the U.S. Government requested such an action.

[Reporter] Costa Rican President Oscar Arias is promoting a presidential summit. Are you willing to participate?

[Azcona] I never refuse invitations. Guatemalan President Cerezo will be visiting Honduras this week, and we will discuss the summit. He seems to be making efforts to hold that summit in San Salvador, and I plan to be there.

[Reporter] Will Honduras participate if Nicaragua does not withdraw its complaint at The Hague?

[Azcona] I will be at the summit whether or not Nicaragua withdraws the complaint. A withdrawal, however, would be ideal, because the complaint was made over a political dispute.

[Reporter] Does this imply that this is not the final summit? That there will be more of them?

[Azcona] I believe many summits will be necessary from now on.

[Reporter] Why does the Nicaraguan-Honduran case have political implications?

[Azcona] Because it is quite different from our border conflict with El Salvador. The Nicaraguan issue is purely political.

[Reporter] Have you spoken to President Ortega about the letter he sent?

[Azcona] In the letter Ortega commented on remarks about me that the Honduran press attributed to him. He stated in the letter that he could not believe this had happened. I would never make derogatory statements about a president from Central America or any part of the world. That is why I believe that perhaps the Honduran press reports may not be totally true.

[Reporter] There are rumors of differences between the legislative and executive branches.

[Azcona] There is no confrontation between the branches of power. Our views do not always coincide, and I have complained of not being informed of things promptly, which I can prove. Congress does have the right to release information at its convenience, but I also have a right to complain when bills are held up for a long time in Congress.

[Reporter] The [words indistinct] are questioning the budget. What do you say to this, Mr President?

[Azcona] That budget cannot be questioned because it is realistic. Spending will increase 8.4 percent, which is the expected rise in revenues in 1989, and it is also more or less the growth rate we will have this year. In other words, that budget has been thoroughly studied, and it falls within our estimated credit levels: domestic credit, foreign aid, and the usual tax and non-tax revenues.

[Reporter] What if Congress cuts the budget for political reasons?

[Azcona] It cannot be cut. Nothing more can be cut from the regular budget; it has suffered enough cuts. We would have to cut the personnel budget, and that would mean people would lose their jobs. Teachers and public employees would lose their jobs. No government or congress would make such a decision because it would be considered subversive.

[Reporter] Will you fire Jack Arevalo, manager of the National Enterprise for Electric Power?

[Azcona] I believe he will resign. When he left, he told me he would resign, and that is all. I am not going to fire him. He wants to return to Congress to dedicate himself to politics.

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Talks With Contras

PA2009032988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0139 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at the closing ceremony of the first youth meeting of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties at the Cesar August Silva Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Text] Good evening, brethren of Latin America and the Caribbean; good evening, Nicaraguan brethren. Nicaragua is proud that in this new fatherland, liberated on 19 July 1979, this organization is being formed with the vigorous strength of Latin American and Caribbean youth. This is not a coincidence. Nobody could have imagined a meeting of this sort in Nicaragua prior to 1979. This meeting is the undeniable result of the people's struggle throughout our history for independence, freedom, justice, democracy, and peace.

The sixties was a decade marked by the vigorous effects of the revolutionary victory in Cuba. It was the decade when all the youth of Latin America rose up to fight against imperialist domination and capitalist oppression. It was an era in which Latin American youth shed their blood in the cities and the mountains; a time when the firm determination of Che was the example that moved the revolutionaries. The sixties was a decade of political, economic, and military maneuvers by the imperialists to oppress the peoples that were emerging with strength, combativeness, and heroism.

In that manner, imperialism managed to overpower the will of most of the Latin American and Caribbean governments. This facilitated the isolation of the Cuban revolution, the systematic repression of [words indistinct] the Latin American armies, and intelligence bodies all coordinated by the Yankees to repress the peoples and to try to kill the Latin American youths' desire for freedom.

This then created an international organization of terror, of persecution of the ideas and actions of the Latin American and Caribbean youths who dared to defy imperialist domination. But those were the years of imperialist domination, of the enforcement of the Monroe Doctrine, which was accepted by the military governments and the so-called civilian governments.

Times have changed, not because the decisions made by higher echelons have influenced the lower echelons; times have changed because although the imperialists tried to subjugate people, although the imperialists decided to sponsor and support military governments throughout our America during all these years, the combativeness of the Latin American youth, of the Latin American peoples, could not be defeated, subdued, or intimidated.

In response to this policy of imperialist terror and the coordination promoted by various U.S. administrations to subdue our people, there emerged revolutionary movements, the youths of the various political vanguard forces who are in contact, who are exchanging experiences, trying to turn this struggle into everyone's battle.

They are trying to turn Bolivar's dream into a reality. The people, the youths, the workers, the progressive parties, and the advance forces resisted the various forms of imperialist oppression. They resorted to armed aggression and also to peaceful action. They brought together the various methods of struggle; they brought together the combative disposition of the social, economic, and political forces that did not accept Yankee and imperialist strategies.

In the seventies, more and more space was opening in our America for a more independent position toward U.S. policy. These positions became increasingly combative to rescue what imperialism had stolen and steals from us: dignity, independence, and sovereignty of our peoples and our fatherlands. Under these hard and complex conditions, the figure of Omar Torrijos emerged. He summoned the peoples and governments of Latin America to make theirs the struggle to allow the people of Panama to be the total masters of their territory.

Under these circumstances, the Chilean people also emerged with great force. After exhausting the bourgeoisie democratic electoral ways, the Popular Unity government came to power and Salvador Allende became president.

Under these circumstances, the struggle continues in Latin America and the Caribbean; the armed revolutionary struggle continues in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala. The armed revolutionary struggle against military dictatorships also continues in the south of our America.

U.S. imperialism resorts to repression time and time again. U.S. imperialism shares the experience acquired in counterinsurgency operations, and the Latin American and Caribbean military forces share the experience they have acquired in repressing the people. They share experiences acquired through torture and the investigation of political and revolutionary groups. They share the experiences acquired in trying to stop the people's struggle. The people also share their experiences; and we remember how we shared with brother Central American nations the experience acquired during our struggle against injustice and liberty [as heard].

U.S. imperialism was desperate when it saw that its democratic-bourgeois model had been countered by Allende's victory in Chile, and it resorted to a coup. It was a brutal and illegal coup, according to the bourgeois democracy's own legal norms, yet the United States resorted to a coup. U.S. imperialism sought to justify the coup and it was eventually accepted by other governments, which became the accomplices of that action. The coup in Chile was a coup against the Latin American and Caribbean peoples. We all suffered from the coup withstood by the Chilean people.

However, the U.S. Government could not stop or neutralize the people's struggle. Quite the contrary, the coup angered revolutionary fighters and it showed the Nicaraguan people that we could not expect anything from U.S. imperialism and that we could not trust the democratic-bourgeois formulas that capitalism advocated. The coup clearly showed the Nicaraguan people that the only alternative was an armed revolutionary struggle. We could not hope to achieve popular and revolutionary changes in a peaceful way, or through democratic-bourgeois institutional formulas. We would simply be frustrated and deceived.

We were convinced that an armed struggle was the only way to defeat Somozism and end the imperialist and capitalist domination of our country. Our belief in that thesis became stronger when the military coup occurred in Chile. Given that this confirmed our beliefs, we continued our actions until we ousted the Somozist dictatorship.

A revolutionary change occurred. Power shifted in Nicaragua from the minorities who had held it since 1821 to the majorities who seized it in 1979. The change was attained because our reality and Latin American experience told us the only way to attain a strong, revolutionary change was through armed means. Nicaragua, at last, entered its revolution 20 years after the Cuban revolution. The Nicaraguan revolution endures because it is a people's revolution, because it is defended by the Nicaraguan youth, people, workers, and women. The Nicaraguan revolution triumphed in a period when there were still military regimes, military dictatorships in Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. This was the picture in Latin America and the Caribbean in July 1979.

Democratic opportunities later began to open up in the area. There are democratic opportunities because of pressures from below, not because of decisions from above. They are democratic although in certain areas the democratic opportunities are only attained through negotiations with and concessions to the military corps.

Democracy is a word often used by people who want to believe there is no democracy in Nicaragua or Cuba. Those people, however, see democracy elsewhere in Latin American and the Caribbean. The Yankees, the imperialists, are the first on this list, because they ignore situations of flagrant human rights violations—such as in Chile, Haiti, and Paraguay. They concentrate all their criticism and only attack the Nicaraguan revolution. The United States has tried to sell the idea that democratic advances have been made in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Central America but that Nicaragua or Cuba have made no democratic advances. Imperialism tries to isolate Cuba and Nicaragua, and recently it has launched a campaign to isolate Panama as well. In this struggle, the concept of democracy is manipulated by imperialism and by its representatives or agents in Latin America and the Caribbean. Reality, however, cannot be hidden.

The facts tell us that the peoples—fighting, combatting, shedding their blood—have been forcing democratic liberalizations. The imperialists have been forced to create democratic liberalizations for fear of revolutionary explosions. We have democratic liberalizations of a revolutionary nature, such as the one that has emerged in Nicaragua, and democratic liberalizations of another nature, such as the ones that have been emerging in other Latin American countries. Here in Central America, we have an example: There are democratic liberalizations in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. In those countries, there clearly are political and ideological stances at odds with the Nicaraguan revolution. We are defending the only kind of democracy that can exist: the democracy of the people, which is the democracy of the majority.

The other democracy, the democracy of minorities, has existed here, with its constitutional framework, support, laws, and even with historical justification. However, the peoples have always questioned this democracy. In this struggle that Latin America and the Caribbean have been waging, regardless of political and ideological differences, a convergence has taken place. The political convergence that has taken place does not break the ideological difference. We have a pragmatic convergence, as it were. It is not only the peoples, the workers in the cities and fields, and youths who have become aware, but also the Latin American capitalists have become aware that unless they unite or come together, the very existence of the Latin American bourgeoisie is in danger. It is not only endangered by the existence of popular movements but by a greater problem related to the unfair economic order that oppresses and represses the peoples of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Third World.

We regard the matter this clearly; this is how we regard our pluralist relations with Latin American governments. We are not meeting here with representatives of Latin America's youths to talk in diplomatic terms—that is, to say nothing. We are here to talk about our situation.

And that is the current Latin American situation. The governments with which we have relations are subjected to U.S. pressure and yield. Not only Central American governments yield to U.S. pressure; other Latin American countries with more resources yield. But pragmatism tells them the Nicaraguan revolution is a reality. Pragmatism tells them that although U.S. imperialism has tried to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution by using many resources and prestige, after 7 years and 8 months imperialism has not managed to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. Imperialism tried to isolate and destroy the Cuban revolution, but the Cuban revolution is still there. These are realities in our America, realities that must be considered pragmatically. This explains the agreement between Latin American governments who have marked ideological and political differences. We also have agreements [with countries that we have differences with].

Nicaraguan workers fully agree with the principles of peace of all Latin America and the Caribbean governments, except for the Chilean Government, the Paraguayan Government, and the Haitian Government. We share their peace proposals and are convinced that a firm and sustained action on economic problems would improve political and social positions in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Nicaraguan Government favors the peaceful resolution of conflicts. But the Nicaraguan Government cannot dictate to any revolutionary movement in Latin America, the Caribbean, or Central America what it must do or how it must do it. This is decided by each country's revolutionaries. We favor Latin American dialogue above all. To strengthen Latin American dialogue is to strengthen the position of Latin America to deal with the countries of the North—the developed countries, the industrialized countries.

Latin American youth continue to play a predominant role in these times that are truly new in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean. That combative, tenacious youth becomes a mobilizing force that contributes to the government's assuming belligerent and combative positions.

Latin American rulers, subjected to imperialist pressure, must also bear in mind the pressure of the people, of the workers, of youths. That is where they must strengthen their nationalist, Latin American stands. They must be strengthened in order to confront Yankee imperialists. The battle currently being waged by Latin America and the Caribbean is a historic battle. It is historic because for the first time, Latin America and the Caribbean are saying no to the Americans on a series of topics. Latin America and the Caribbean are not blindly accepting orders from the Americans.

However, the United States is exerting pressure to change the Latin American attitude. The United States is trying to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution, trying to put an end to the nationalist process in Panama, trying to demobilize Latin American governments, and demoralize the Latin American and Caribbean peoples. The imperialists do not just contemplate these battles; they act very strongly against our peoples and Latin American and Caribbean governments. Therefore, the combative

spirit of Latin American youths, the combative spirit of young workers, young peasants, and young students will be decisive in strengthening these vanguard positions of Latin America and the Caribbean.

These positions have been achieved despite a U.S. Administration, which is about to conclude its second term, that has been marked by its criminal, warmongering, hegemonistic, cynical, and shameless stands. During the Reagan administration, the imperialists displayed their true feelings, and those who were deceiving themselves and thought the Latin American armed forces were able to defend Latin American countries from extracontinental attack were left with no excuses when the Yankee imperialists made their stand in the Malvinas Islands.

The OAS, the Inter-American Defense Forces, which had already been used to isolate Cuba, which had already been used to invade the Dominican Republic and in situations where there was not clear extracontinental aggression, did not play any role when there was an extracontinental attack and the warships from the United Kingdom cut through the ocean and came to shed the blood of the Latin American peoples in the Malvinas Islands.

Those who conspire even against the negotiated democratic openings in Latin American countries have to think very carefully about future action when they meet the energy and combative force of the Latin American youths.

At this time of Latin American unity, when Latin American organizations such as the Contadora and Support Groups play important roles for peace in Central America, it is important to continue strengthening these positions. The truth is that imperialism used to rate Panama as a 10, but after Panama did not agree to help in an invasion of Nicaragua, imperialism decided to rate Panama as a 0.

It worries us that the Latin American and Caribbean governments that are part of the Group of Eight and the Contadora and Support Groups have not yet decided to recognize the role Panama and Torrijos played in favor of Latin American unity, because it was on the Panamanian island of Contadora that the Contadora Group was formed. It was not in another Latin American country. Forming the Contadora Group was a challenge to and a defiance of the Yankee empire, and the empire has put the screws on Panama by waging campaigns of discredit and slander that have a single goal. The goal is not to let the Panamanians have the canal and to turn Panama into a base that will always be at the service of imperialist military adventures.

We have to note with concern this position by some governments that, faced with Yankee threats and Yankee pressure, join the isolationist policy against Panama. We know that within the Group of Eight there are some who want Panama's immediate integration as a sovereign country representing Latin American interests. There are also those, however, who give in to U.S. pressure. That is reality. We know this reality very well.

The youths must try to strengthen progressive, vanguard, and Latin American positions; they must strengthen positions that unite us and oppose positions that divide us. The youths must strengthen Bolivar's spirit and fight to destroy the Monroe Doctrine, which the Yankee imperialists continue to defend.

The Nicaraguan revolution has been resisting, and will continue resisting, U.S. aggression. We have been resisting in the military field, in the economic field, and in the political and diplomatic field, because we have the support of the Nicaraguan youths, workers, and peasants. This has enabled us to survive the U.S. aggression all these years.

In fact, during its last few months, the Reagan administration is trying to aggravate the situation in Nicaragua. It has not even ruled out a direct strike; that is, direct intervention in Nicaragua. U.S. experts and analysts have even been studying the matter. They have pointed out that the U.S. Administration might consider direct strikes against Panama and Nicaragua. In either case, this administration is trying to influence the U.S. electorate during the election campaign.

As for Nicaragua, we have been responding to Reagan's obsession with the Nicaraguan revolution all these years. A U.S. expert or analyst who worked for the CIA until 1984 noted that Reagan has made many more references to Nicaragua than to any other international or domestic issue.

In other words, Reagan has attacked Nicaragua during his speeches over radio and television and during his visits to other countries, as when he announced the embargo against Nicaragua during a visit to the FRG on 1 May 1985. He has referred to Nicaragua many more times than he has referred to any other international or domestic policy issue. This indicates a highly dangerous psychological condition that makes it impossible for us to trust Reagan, regardless of the result of the November election. The Yankee administration could easily create a conflict at the border with Honduras and take the opportunity to launch an operation against Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Administration continues its campaign to destroy Nicaragua by resorting to economic attrition, continuing the economic embargo, pressuring other governments not to cooperate with Nicaragua, and attempting to form a government of national salvation, as they call it, with the opposition parties and the counterrevolution, which are one and the same in their counterrevolutionary efforts. They use the right-wing media in our country to wage campaigns alleging Nicaragua violates human rights, lacks democratic freedoms,

and has not complied with the Esquipulas agreement. The U.S. Government, of course, takes it for granted that Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica have complied with Esquipulas.

In other words, the U.S. Administration lists a series of reasons to create or attempt to create the internal and external conditions that would lay the groundwork for an invasion and at the same time would prepare a so-called government of national salvation to replace the Sandinist government, the legitimate Nicaraguan government.

Clashes in the war zone have decreased noticeably, both because of the blows the counterrevolutionaries have received and as a result of the truce the Nicaraguan Government has declared. One could understand why the United States would carry out intensive spy flights in our airspace while the fighting was still intense and most of the counterrevolutionary forces were inside our country. The purpose was to provide operational information to the contras about our troop movements, so as to permit the contras to avoid combat. However, although the fighting has decreased—that is, the contras have staged some attacks on civilian targets during the truce; they have been instructed to attack any available target, anywhere, but the majority of the contra forces are staying in Honduras—the number of daily spy flights has suspiciously increased. Instead of being reduced, spy flights have increased.

The U.S. Government has allocated some aid to the armed counterrevolution and some to the unarmed counterrevolution; that is, the opposition groups. According to the latest report, the CIA and the Yankee government have channeled $693,000 to several organizations through the National Foundation for Democracy. This is a partial breakdown: LA PRENSA newspaper, $47,500; CUS [Confederation for Trade Union Unity] and CTN [Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers], $200,000; COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], $96,500; one of the Conservative Party's six factions, $150,000; and an organization of political parties and business and labor unions known as the National Coordinating Board, $22,000. In addition, $25,000 went to the opposition radio stations.

U.S. imperialism is not happy over the results of its policy in Nicaragua. The United States still plans to escalate its aggression against our country to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution with all available means and resources.

For that reason, we intend to strengthen the revolution's defenses. We harbor no hopes about the next U.S. president—either Bush or Dukakis—as we know they support the same interests. Both will try to hinder or even eliminate the Nicaraguan revolution. In the meantime, Reagan may try to carry out additional actions against Nicaragua to make the situation more difficult for the next administration.

We hope the new U.S. administration will have learned its lesson and will seek an understanding with the Nicaraguan Government, as we are willing to reach an understanding with the U.S. Government.

Meanwhile, we continue to strengthen our country's military defense, which is vital to protect our economy and to make events such as this possible. The EPS, the Interior Ministry fighters, and the Nicaraguan youth are a formidable bulwark blocking the mercenary forces at the border and deep in the mountains.

However, while we have urged and continue to urge the Yankee government to respect the international legal order—which the Latin American and Caribbean peoples must defend, as we do not have the atomic bomb and are not military powers—we have also insisted on the need to hold direct talks to normalize relations.

Simultaneously, we have invited the mercenaries to continue the negotiations that began in Sapoa, that continued in Managua, and that they suspended. A meeting was held today in Guatemala between a Nicaraguan Government delegation and a mercenary delegation to discuss a site for continuing the talks. Although this may seem a secondary factor, it is a key factor at this time, because the Yankees want to use the contras to depict Nicaragua as being intransigent. The Yankees accuse Nicaragua of preventing peace and disrupting negotiations. They want to justify the approval of so-called humanitarian and military aid to the contras. That is the Yankee administration's goal.

The contras have insisted that the meetings take place in Guatemala, Costa Rica, or Santo Domingo. Now we insist that the meetings be held in Managua. We have changed our position somewhat, because you may recall that we were previously opposed to holding the meetings in Nicaragua. We did not even want to talk with the contras.

We said at the time that it was necessary to talk with Reagan, that we had to talk with the one who hired the gunmen rather than with the gunmen, and that we had to talk with the one who let loose the dogs rather than with the dogs. That was our position.

We agreed to talk with the contras, the mercenaries, after the Esquipulas agreement was signed, thinking that some conditions existed for reaching an understanding with the contras, despite the Yankees' wishes to the contrary. We thought the conditions existed because of the setbacks the contras had suffered. Special events, such as Esquipulas, have taken place. The Central American governments, even those more dependent on the Yankee government, signed a peace agreement that displeased the Yankees. The Yankees condemned it and have boycotted it. The truth is, however, that this peace agreement was signed. The pragmatism of the Central American presidents prevailed over the Yankee leaders' pressure.

We thought likewise that pragmatism could prevail among the mercenaries, particularly among their leaders, who might reason like this: We either run the risk of total defeat and of ending up with nothing, or we seek a negotiated solution and achieve something. Based on this view, we first decided on indirect contacts in the Dominican Republic. Meanwhile, the Yankees and Reagan himself had been saying that the Yankee government would sit down and talk with the Nicaraguan Government the day the Sandinists sat down and talked with the contras. It was the Yankees who insisted that we talk with the contras. But we could not talk with the contras as long as we did not see any reason for it. This position was not based on any principles but on realism. To talk with the contras at any other time was a waste of time; it meant legitimizing a mercenary force.

But, as soon as we started to talk indirectly with the contras, it was necessary to invoke the Esquipulas agreement, which clearly called on those forces to accept the institutional framework and to stop receiving U.S. aid. Preliminary indirect contacts took place in the Dominican Republic, then in Guatemala, and finally there were direct talks in Costa Rica. And still they insisted on talking with us in Nicaragua. We did not want to meet with them in Nicaragua because the people did not want to see them here.

Finally, we made up our minds to meet with them in Nicaragua. The meeting was held at Sapoa, and an agreement was signed. This is an agreement as important as the Esquipulas agreement. At the time, as the result of the Nicaraguan Government's negotiating ability and initiative, and because of the presence of the OAS secretary general and a church representative, the contra leadership had no choice but to sign the Sapoa agreement. So that meeting in Nicaragua brought results. Then they asked for a meeting in Managua, so the next meeting was held in Managua. During the meeting in Managua, the Nicaraguan Government presented a 32-point proposal. Of these, agreement was reached on 20 points.

What does this mean? This means favorable conditions for an agreement with the mercenaries existed because the Yankee empire had shot its bolt with the mercenaries. This agreement could be reached on Nicaraguan territory. [passage indistinct] We did not ask to meet in Managua—they did. But they withdrew after all this effort and when agreement had been reached on 20 points. A new contact to discuss a site for the meeting took place 3 months later.

Now we want to meet in Managua, and they want to meet in the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, or Guatemala. They want to make Nicaragua appear intransigent, but the truth is that they are being intransigent, because they originally insisted on meeting in Managua. Because Managua has proved a good meeting place at which substantial progress in the talks has been made, it is only natural to meet in Managua.

That has been the Nicaraguan Government's position, and it is the position we took to the meeting in Guatemala.

This struggle we Nicaraguans are waging is a struggle that, as has been aptly said, is not being waged exclusively for us Nicaraguans. It is primarily our struggle, but it is also a peoples' struggle. It is the struggle of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples and youth, who have been demonstrating all these years their combative solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution, their combative solidarity with the humble working people of Nicaragua, their combative solidarity with the Nicaraguan women and youths, and their combative solidarity with the Nicaraguan children, who have also been and continue to be victims of the Yankee Government's criminal policy.

On this day—which has historical significance because we are creating the Latin American peoples' and youths' means of struggle, a means of struggle to achieve freedom, independence, justice, democracy, and peace—in the name of these heroic, combative people of Sandino, in the name of Nicaraguan youths, I say to our Latin American brothers, comrades, and friends: Onward, the future is ours. There will be no force capable of blocking the decisions that have already been made by the Latin American and Caribbean peoples. Thank you very much. [applause]

Government-Contra Prisoner Release Agreement

PA2009221288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2105 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Nicaraguan Resistance announced today in Costa Rica that it has reached an agreement with the Nicaraguan Government for the liberation in Guatemala of 66 Sandinists that the contras have been holding prisoner for several months.

Alfredo Cesar, one of the seven members of the contra Directorate, has said the agreement was reached on Monday by Nicaraguan Resistance and Sandinist delegates who met in Guatemala City to prepare a new round of negotiations.

Cesar said the Nicaraguan Government initially had been opposed to the release in Guatemala of the Sandinists—who according to him are prisoners of war—as the Nicaraguan Resistance had proposed, but that it finally agreed to their release in that country.

At a news conference in San Jose today, Cesar said the Resistance maintains its position of accepting a new round of high-level negotiations to be held 26-28 September, but reiterated the Resistance's refusal to meet in Managua.

The contra leader said "there are no suitable conditions" in Managua for the meeting because of the restrictions that the government imposes on the rebels, who want access to the media and the opposition.

Cesar accused Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega of "depending on Moscow" and "acting based on what Washington does." Cesar recalled that the Sandinist chief of state will speak next week at an OAS meeting in Washington, D.C., and that he will take advantage of the occasion to make some announcement regarding the dialogue.

The rebel leader told ACAN-EFE that the Resistance is not conditioning the talks with the Sandinists to the release of 39 Nicaraguans who are in jail for having participated at the beginning of July in a demonstration in Nandaime that ended in violence and several injuries. He said: "We have asked (the government) to release the Nandaime prisoners as a gesture of goodwill, but it is not a condition."

Negotiations between the government and the contras began on 21 March in Sapoa, in southern Nicaragua near the Costa Rican border. They continued later in Managua with four rounds of negotiations that broke up on 9 June.

RN To Ask U.S. for 'Urgent' Military Aid

PA2009181588 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1735 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Contra leader Roberto Ferrey today said the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) will ask the United States for "urgent" military aid because contacts with the Sandinist government in Guatemala failed to establish a place and date for resuming the peace talks.

According to Ferrey, who is one of the RN Directorate's seven members, the Sandinist government eliminated any possibility of negotiating a final cease-fire in Nicaragua. Ferrey said this forces the contras to urgently demand more military aid from Washington.

The RN and the Managua government, which met for 4 hours at a Guatemala City hotel yesterday, failed to agree on a place and date for resuming negotiations. The Sandinist government insists on the negotiations continuing in Managua, while the contras want to meet somewhere else. The two sides agree only that the meeting was "useful" because it is now possible to break the "stagnation" that set in on 9 June, when the negotiations in the Nicaraguan capital were suspended.

Although the delegations discussed "substantial" topics, such as the date, place, and terms for a future "top-level" meeting, they only agreed that there is a "willingness" to negotiate a final truce for the war, which has lasted 7 years.

Ferrey said: "We interpret the Sandinist government's demand that the meeting be held in Managua as a propaganda action, because it wants to show there is freedom in Nicaragua. We all know, however, that this is not true. We do not know why the Sandinists do not want to negotiate in Guatemala, Costa Rica, or the Dominican Republic. We can act more freely outside Managua."

"Although we will keep in touch, the Sandinist government's position forces us to demand that the United States resume giving us military aid, which was suspended in February," Ferrey added.

The Sandinist government, which regarded the site for "top-level" negotiations "a secondary matter," thinks the contras have made up their minds to negotiate because they have received "humanitarian" aid only.

Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, who headed the Nicaraguan delegation and returned to his country today, commented on the lack of results at the talks by saying: "Behind this we can see the U.S. hand and an intention to stir up trouble." [passage omitted]

Protest Sent to Costa Rica on Contra Hospital

PA2109031488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0154 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Report on communique issued by the Press and Information Directorate of the Foreign Ministry on 20 September]

[Text] On 20 September 1988, Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco sent a protest note to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto with regard to a communique issued on 19 September 1988 and released by the Public Security Ministry, according to reports published in Costa Rican media such as LA REPUBLICA and PRENSA LIBRE in their 20 September editions.

The communique points out the following: Following the visit to Costa Rica of Morris Busby, U.S. special ambassador to Central America, on 7 April, the Costa Rican Government agreed to a plan for injured Nicaraguan mercenaries to be treated in Costa Rican hospitals instead of being sent to the United States.

Likewise, official sources confirmed the existence, authorization, and operation of a clandestine hospital of the irregular forces operating in Curridabat. In this regard, the [Costa Rican] media reported that Information Minister Guido Fernandez indicated that this center provides medical aid for the war wounded.

It was pointed out that the Nicaraguan Embassy was aware of this center because Security Minister Hernan Garron Salazar had informed the embassy of the hospital's existence.

Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said the Nicaraguan Government forcefully protests the authorization given by the Costa Rican Government for its

territory to be used as a base for the recuperation of mercenary forces, who are daily staging criminal and terrorist attacks against the Nicaraguan people. Such conduct violates the presidential agreements signed on 7 August 1987, contradicts the Sapoa agreement, and violates the fundamental norms of international law, thereby adversely affecting regional peace efforts and involving the government of your country in the mercenary war against Nicaragua.

As has been stated, this illegal decision was made following the visit of Mr Busby to your country.

The communique also points out that the nature of such actions to foster the war was made known in a bulletin released on 17 September by the public affairs office of the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, which pointed out that AID had begun treating the injured mercenaries and returning them to their places of combat with the permission of the Costa Rican Government.

The note recalls the Nicaraguan Government's position with regard to these incidents, which were expressed in the note that was given to Security Minister Hernan Garron on 3 August 1988. A copy was sent to the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry and pointed out the following: If your government had agreed to allow AID to rent a building for those purposes, the Nicaraguan Government would be obliged to demand the immediate repeal of that illegal decision, which is a form of military support of irregular groups, which is a violation of the Esquipulas agreement.

The communique adds: As for this aid, the Nicaraguan Government demands the capture and immediate trial of those mercenary groups because of their destabilizing and terrorist acts against Nicaragua.

Finally, in the protest note the Nicaraguan Government demands the dismantling of clandestine hospitals and the rectification of this measure that violates points five and six of the Esquipulas agreement, which call for the suspension of aid to irregular forces as an essential element to achieve a stable and lasting peace in the region, and the duty to prevent the use of one country's territory to attack another country.

D'Escoto on Hopes for Next U.S. Administration

PA2009171788 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Caracas—Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said yesterday that all Nicaragua expects from the next U.S. government is for it to end 8 years of disregard for international law. During a recess of the 14th SELA Ministerial Council being held in Caracas, Venezuela, D'Escoto was asked about his country's feelings regarding the approaching change of government in Washington. We want the next U.S. president to be someone who will commit himself to respecting international law, D'Escoto said. In the same way, D'Escoto said that the Esquipulas II peace agreements signed by the Central American presidents on 7 August 1987 were an expression of great courage on the part of governments that are extremely dependent on the United States. Unfortunately, Washington has increased its pressure to block the agreements.

The United States has applied pressure to freeze the work being done by the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission, CIVS, formed by the Contadora Group countries, Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela; the Support Group, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Peru; and the UN and OAS secretaries general. What Washington wanted was for the United States to act as judge and jury in deciding who had, or had not, abided by the Esquipulas II agreements. This is why it is very important that the Contadora and Support Groups reactivate the CIVS. Esquipulas II would not have been possible without the support of those two groups. D'Escoto stressed that peace in the region will be threatened as long as the United States continues to disregard international law.

Panama

FDP Urges Public Employees To Go to Work

PA2009161888 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Sep 88 p 1

[Communique issued by the Information and Public Relations Directorate of the Panama Defense Forces (FDP) in Panama City on 19 September]

[Text] The Panama Defense Forces inform all public employees that they should go to work today, 20 September, since the FDP is guaranteeing that public services will be rendered normally and without disruption.

Police force units will provide the necessary vigilance to guarantee that at each government office, public employees and the general public are afforded the security necessary for public employees to fulfill their duties and to meet the people's demand for their services.

FDP Information and Public Relations Directorate

Panama City, 19 September 1988

Workers Occupy Church Office

PA2009204488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2012 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Panama City, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Dozens of workers who have been fired from the Panamanian Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [IRHE] today peacefully occupied the archbishopric's office in Panama City. They demanded their reinstatement and an end to the military presence in their workplaces.

A spokesman for the IRHE union, one of the most powerful in the country, said at least 900 employees were dismissed due to their support yesterday and today of a 48-hour government employees strike.

Father Fernando Guardia of the archbishopric's office confirmed the occupation of that office to ACAN-EFE. However, he said he was not sure exactly how many workers participated in the action, or what their intentions are.

Union Head: Strike To Continue

PA2009234888 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2310 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Hector Aleman, secretary general of FENASEP [National Federation of Associations of Public Employees], today said the government workers' struggle will continue because no specific agreement has been reached with the government.

[Begin Aleman recording] We are in the seventh day of our struggle. We can say that from our evaluation, we have received 80-percent support for the strike despite all the threats we have been receiving and all the things the government has done in each government institution to prevent us from carrying out our struggle. I want to stress that we are essentially trying to obtain guarantees for concrete commitments from this government with regard to a people-oriented plan. [end recording]

However, only some of the 140,000 government workers heeded FENASEP's call for a second day of strike today. Yesterday and today, this station's news team toured many government institutions where the strike was only partially successful. The workers were at their jobs, some on strike while others were working.

[Begin Aleman recording] What are the proposals that the government is making to the people to really face the aggression? We should not confuse things. It should not be said that because we are struggling we are either against the aggression or we are traitors. No, we are not going to win the confrontation with imperialism with demagoguery. We are anti-imperialists because of our convictions and our principles and not because it is to our advantage. Some people in the government have demagogically adopted such a position. [end recording]

CRTP Warns Government

PA2109005688 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2335 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] The Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama [CRTP] has issued a communique signed by Secretary General Ricardo Monterrey repudiating any attempt to restrict the right to protest or to demand wages or other benefits. The workers added that the communique recently issued by the Council of State is politically untenable because it is a virtual declaration of war, ignoring the fact that the affected sector is precisely the sector that has been the government's ally and has demonstrated loyalty and support at those times when very few people, both inside and outside the government, supported the present government.

The most consistent attitude that was expected from the Council of State was to find a concerted and urgent solution that would preserve unity. It is not possible for the government to intimidate, threaten, and fire workers while at the same time it clings to its lack of political determination on the questions of sinecures and the abuse of public funds and property, and while it remains adrift in a provoked war without emergency plans.

Therefore, the CRTP demands that the truth be made known about public finances, the payment of the 13th-month bonus, the purging of the administration, the release of arrested or persecuted leaders, and the enactment of emergency plans. If the recent past is forgotten, we will not be able to face the immediate future. The communique signed by Ricardo Monterrey, secretary general; Ivanor Alonso, secretary of organization; and Aniano Pinzon, secretary of defense and legal affairs of the CRTP, concludes by stating: Let the government know that it is in power due, to a great extent, to the understanding, loyalty, and maturity of the government workers and the people. Disregarding this political maxim is almost like giving up power itself. We have already told the government that the crisis is now spreading into the social sector and if it is not properly directed, the struggle will become uncontrollable. The reaction of the masses would be uncontrollable and the fate of everyone would be left to the mercy of the most dangerous intentions.

Solis To Report 'Aggressions' in UN Speech

PA2009221688 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 20 Sep 88 p 5

[From "The Confidential Report" column by Enrique Collins Mendoza]

[Text] On 27 September, a speaker will be reporting at the United Nations the aggressions against our country by the huge northern power merely because we want to decide our destiny as free and sovereign people. This mission be carried out by Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma, who will speak with respect but with dignity.

Argentina

Caputo Elected UN General Assembly President

PY2009215688 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2020 GMT 20 Sep 88

[By special NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS correspondent]

[Text] New York, 20 Sep (NA)—This afternoon Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo was elected president of the UN General Assembly. The outgoing president of the UN General Assembly, the GDR's Florin, reported that the voting results were 91 in favor, 66 opposed, and 1 abstention.

After he was proclaimed the winner at 1710 Argentine time, Caputo was warmly greeted by the delegations that voted for him.

Air Force Commander on Pampa Planes, Condor II

PY2009194088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1500 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Cordoba, 20 Sep (NA)—Brigadier Roberto Engroba, Air Force Cordoba Materiel Area chief, has refused to confirm or deny the reports that Argentina is manufacturing missiles capable of launching nuclear weapons.

Asked about the announced U.S. Government opposition to the Argentine production of Condor I and II missiles in cooperation with Iraq and Egypt, Engroba said "the project has nothing to do with the Fabrica Argentina de Material Aerospacial" [FAMA] Company. Engroba is the vice president of this Company.

"I have nothing to say on the issue," Brigadier Engroba said. Asked whether the project exists, Engroba refused to confirm or deny it, reiterating that he cannot pass on an opinion on an issue that is not his responsibility.

Engroba briefly talked to journalists this morning during the ceremony during which two IA 63 Pampa planes left, to be exhibited in the United States and four Latin American countries. The operation was baptized "Gato y Mancha," in memory of criollo horses that linked Argentina and the United States between 1925 and 1928.

The Pampa planes, and a Hercules C-130 transporting support equipment, will stage the first exhibitions at Andrews Air Force Base, near Washington. This exhibition will be viewed by Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena, Air Force Commander Brigadier Ernesto Crespo, and U.S. Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci.

The exhibition will be repeated at Randolph Base, in Texas, and at a U.S. Navy base. These operation will be presided over by FAMA President Brigadier Ruben Corraletti.

During the second stage of the exhibitions, under the responsibility of Brigadier Engroba, the Argentine advanced basic training plane will be exhibited to Air Force authorities in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. The purpose of these exhibitions is to try to sell the plane to these countries.

The possible sale of the Pampa plane to the United States would be conditioned to the production of the plane in a joint venture with a U.S. firm because U.S. laws forbid the importation of finished military hardware.

Military Source on Rocket

PY2009182488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1525 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Sep (TELAM)—A military source told TELAM today that Air Force technicians are currently working on a project known as Condor II, a medium-range rocket designed to put payloads intended for peaceful purposes into space.

The source recalled that the project has been in the development stage for more than 2 years, and that it was exhibited to the public during the air and space fair in Buenos Aires last year.

The source also recalled that this is not the first time our country has been accused of producing rockets capable of launching nuclear weapons. The source added that Argentina supports a policy of disarmament, reiterating what has been emphasized by the highest-ranking authorities on many occasions.

The source said that the project is being developed in the experimental center of Falda del Carmen, near Alta Gracia, Cordoba Province.

Asked if the rocket can be modified to carry atomic weapons, the source said that any rocket can be modified, but reiterated that the government does not intend to do anything like that.

The source also denied an alleged Argentine plan to sell medium-range missiles to other nations, and, least likely of all, to export them to zones of conflict. Argentina does not have a proper guidance and control system, and this constitutes the difference between a rocket and a missile, the source concluded.

Christian Democrats Vote To Support Menem

PY1909203188 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Christian Democrat (DC) Chairman Carlos Auyero yesterday announced his intention to temporarily step aside from exercising party leadership following the defeat of his anti-alliance stand in the party's convention last Saturday.

After the majority of convention delegates voted in favour of forming an alliance with the Justicialist Party to run in the 1989 presidential elections, Auyero told his closest supporters that he intended to request a leave of absence as party chairman in order to "calm the waters" stirred by the alliance controversy.

DC Deputy Chairman Esio Silveira, who took the opposite stance, will remain in charge of the party while Auyero is away.

Auyero held that the DC should run alone in the upcoming elections in order to present a left-of-centre alternative to the Peronist and Radical candidates, Carlos Menem and Eduardo Angeloz respectively, while excluding the most extreme sectors of the left.

The DC leader warned that "no one must even think of dividing the DC," in reference to the threat to party unity posed by the firm stands for and against backing Menem in 1989.

The decision to create a front with the Peronists was voted by 84 delegates against 46, with two abstentions.

Another decision reached during the convention was the creation of a special committee to negotiate the alliance. The DC will next meet in Cordoba on October 29 to hear the committe's report and outline its electoral strategy.

Intransigent Party Endorses Justicialist Ticket

PY2009035688 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Deputy Oscar Alende, leader of the leftist Intransigent Party [PI], stated this afternoon that the PI will form an electoral front with the Justicialist Party, and next year it will endorse the Carlos Menem-Eduardo Duhalde slate. [passage omitted]

The PI endorsement of the Justicialist ticket was decided this morning during a private meeting held by Alende, Menem, and Duhalde. The formation of the National Liberation Front [Frente de Liberacion Nacional] was also discussed at this meeting, the PI leader said. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Cabinet Tenders Resignation to President Paz

PY2009153588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1455 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Report by Facundo Hurtado from the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The cabinet meeting here in the Foreign Ministry, at which a mass resignation document was signed, has apparently ended.

According to the labor minister, who is acting as the cabinet spokesman, [words indistinct] in this pre-election phase [words indistinct] to organize the government within the special political conditions prevailing in Bolivia.

The labor minister said that President Victor Paz Estenssoro's (?mission) is to support the nomination of Gonzalo Sanchez de Losada as the MNR presidential candidate and [words indistinct].

According to latest reports, President Victor Paz Estenssoro [words indistinct] (?has met) recently with some Bolivian personalities in order to form a new cabinet.

The president's decision is primarily based on the political changes that are taking place in our country and inside the MNR. In 1989 the MNR will seek reelection under the candidacy of Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada. Here is the statement of Labor Minister Alfredo Franco Guachalla: [recorded passage indistinct]

You have just listened to the statement by Labor Minister Franco Guachalla, who after attending a cabinet meeting in the Foreign Ministry told us his opinion of the meeting and reported that in the next few hours, or at least before tomorrow, President Paz will make a cabinet reshuffle. He will thus begin his last government phase that will last until 6 August, when he will have to step down in favor of the winner of the 1989 general elections.

[Announcer] Thank you, Facundo. Therefore, this means that the cabinet resignation has already been dictated and it is on its way to Government House. We will soon learn of the president's decision and of the announcement of a new cabinet, and we will learn which ministers will be ratified in their posts.

Resignation Letter

PY2009161988 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1534 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] A few minutes ago Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal delivered to President Victor Paz Estenssoro at Government House the collective resignation of the national cabinet. This letter is not signed by the education and culture minister because he is currently in Santa Cruz.

The letter reads:

Within the political organization of Your Excellency's government, the Council of Ministers has taken into account the recent events that took place during the 15th national convention of the National Revolutionary Movement.

The decision taken during the MNR convention, as well as the open door policy [words indistinct] for the people to elect their new governors and [words indistinct] in 1989 has established a new [words indistinct].

The undersigned ministers, during the time we have cooperated with Your Excellency in fulfilling your government duties, have always found Your Excellency's leadership to be marked by clear objectives and permanent political courage. You are fulfilling the difficult task of reorganizing the country's economy in keeping with sound and realistic policies which, above all, are establishing the grounds for an economically stable society that enjoys an all-encompassing development that [words indistinct] and security to the Bolivian citizens, who unanimously seek to strengthen democracy and freedom.

During these difficult times we have always found the confidence that Your Excellency has had in us to be very encouraging in the conduct of our tasks.

In compliance with the upcoming political partisan activity, in which we believe Your Excellency should enjoy full freedom of action to organize the executive branch, we submit to you our resignations from the posts of ministers of state, with which Your Excellency has honored us.

We take advantage of this opportunity to express to Your Excellency our deep appreciation.

The letter is signed by the ministers of state with the exception of the education and culture minister, who is currently visiting Santa Cruz city.

We asked Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal his opinion and he said that he agrees with the decision to resign that was adopted by his fellow cabinet members.

According to the foreign minister the new cabinet will be sworn in this afternoon at 1830 at the main hall of the government palace.

4 Ministers Replaced

PY2009010788 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Dr Victor Paz Estenssoro, the constitutional president of the Republic, has renewed part of his cabinet by supreme decree.

Following the collective resignation tendered by his secretaries of state this morning, the head of state decided to replace four of his ministers and confirm the rest in their posts.

Dr Paz's new ministers are: Orlando Romero, who is replacing Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada as planning and coordination minister; Joaquin Arce, who is replacing Carlos Perez Guzman as social services and public health minister; Alfonso Rueda Pena, who acted as labor under secretary during the tenure of former Labor Minister Alfredo Franco Guachalla, has become labor minister; and finally, Luis Palenque was sworn in as the new industry and commerce minister, replacing Fernando Moscoso. [passage omitted]

The president of the Republic said that the partial cabinet change will in no way change the policy outlined by the government, a policy prompted by the need to implement an economy based on monetary stabilization and development. Dr Paz said that our basic duties up to the end of the current constitutional period will be to overcome the crisis, to breathe new life into productive activities, to increase development, to strengthen domestic and foreign confidence, and to cast an image of seriousness and continuity in the government's effort. [passage omitted]

The president of the Republic said that he would insist on the implementation of his program. We have an inescapable duty toward Bolivia, he said, namely to save Bolivia from a strong economic and social depression.

We will fully comply with this duty because nothing takes precedence over this basic duty, Dr Paz concluded.

Central Bank President Reports on Foreign Debt

PY2009223988 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Sep 88 p 7

[Text] Bolivian Central Bank President Fernando Anker has revealed that the country's foreign debt balance stood at $4.209 billion on 30 June of this year.

According to the breakdown provided by Mr Anker, of that total, $1.3 billion represent debts with multilateral creditors (international financial organizations) and $2.2 billion is debt for bilateral loans (loans from governments or guaranteed by governments).

In addition, $35 million is debt contracted through the sale of bonds, and $678 million is debt with international private banks. He explained that the amount of debt with the international private banks still includes the face values of debt notes that were "repurchased" after 30 June 1988.

Mr Anker also said that approximately $400 million of the contracted foreign debt is still pending disbursement.

Asked about the inflow of hard currency during the first half of this year, Anker said that the country has received $136 million in disbursements of external credit.

In the same time period, the country paid out $43 million in principal amortization and $49 million in interest service.

The Central Bank president explained that the net inflow of hard currency ($136 million credit disbursement received minus $43 million principal amortization paid

out) resulted in a surplus of $93 million, and that the net transfer of resources ($136 million credit disbursement received minus $92 million paid out for principal amortization and interest service) resulted in a $44-million surplus.

Finally, Mr Anker reiterated that the country is keeping current on its foreign debt payments with international financial organizations (multilateral creditors) because that is the only way to guarantee a positive inflow of hard currency into the country.

As for its bilateral debts, Anker said that Bolivia has not yet made interest payments for the first half of this year on the debt renegotiated with the Paris Club last year. The country is expecting to again renegotiate that debt at the upcoming meeting of the Paris Club in early October. Bolivia also hopes to reschedule the payments that have fallen behind.

Anker then added that payments on the bilateral debt that matured in the second half of last year and the first half of this year are still overdue. That portion of the foreign debt is estimated at $130 million and it has yet to be renegotiated.

The Bolivian Government will officially propose a renegotiation of the $130 million bilateral debt overdue since July 1987 at the October Paris Club meeting.

The initial intention is to renegotiate the bilateral obligations the country has up until the second half of 1991.

Correction to COMIBOL Suspends Strike

The following correction pertains to the item with the subheadline "COMIBOL Suspends Strike," published in the 20 September Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 23:

column one, subheadline: Miners Federation Suspends Strike (correcting name of organization)

column one, paragraph five, line one: ...a good omen: The miners federation announcement to suspend... (correcting name of organization)

column one, paragraph five, last line: ...Huanuni through negotiations.

The miners federation has suspended the... (correcting name of organization)

column one, paragraph nine, line one: ...We believe the miners federation has understood there... (correcting name of organization)

column one, last paragraph, last line: ...mine stops producing. (new graf)

The miners federation has temporarily suspended... (correcting name of organization)

Brazil

Business, Workers on Solution to Economic Crisis

PY2109020888 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] After meeting for 3 hours here in Brasilia, businessmen and workers today issued a joint statement whereby they agree to negotiate a solution to the economic crisis as soon as possible.

Senator Albano Franco, president of the National Confederation of Industries [CNI], believes that today's meeting was a decisive one.

[Begin Franco recording] The important thing is that a step forward has been taken toward fighting inflation without recession through measures that will truly bring relief to the nation. [end recording]

Business and labor representatives agreed on the measures that should be taken immediately to fight inflation: change the investment policy; provide a new approach to the foreign debt; and keep salaries at realistic levels.

The statement urges all sectors of Brazilian society—including government officials, politicians, and trade unions—to join this pact. Tomorrow a six-member technical committee consisting of labor and business representatives will begin to discuss proposals to fight inflation. A suggestion has been made to change the foreign debt conversion policy to earmark resources for new investments. Regarding salaries, the workers want monthly adjustments based on the inflation rate; that is, salaries and prices should be adjusted monthly on the basis of the inflation rate.

Senator Franco believes the anti-inflation pact will be concluded in 10 days. Mario Amato, president of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries, noted that this is an extremely difficult agreement and that it will take time.

Chile

Government Urges Democrats To 'Stop and Reflect'

PY2109015688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Today the government called on the Chilean people to reflect on the future of the country in view of the upcoming plebiscite, pointing out that each vote for the no option will be a step toward the revival of the Popular Unity, and that each vote for yes will be a step toward democracy.

In a public statement, Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez said that the democratic sectors of the opposition have been systematically overwhelmed by Marxism since the day the Marxists joined the opposition.

It is still time for democrats to stop and reflect, because listening to a few sentences of totalitarian preaching will be enough for them to realize that no democracy can ever be built within totalitarianism, the minister said.

The 11-page government document begins by stating that a few days before the date on which the country will decide on its future, the government calls upon Chileans to stop and reflect on the future and on the fact that this future depends on their decision. For a long time now Chile has known the opposition sectors. The people listened to them and saw them at work before and after their advent to power and over the past 15 years. The people have also had a chance to carefully watch them over the past few weeks, after the beginning of the plebiscite process, which is being held in strict compliance with the law and which will crown the work of the government and of the vast majority of Chileans with the restoration of full democracy.

This statement was released by the Interior Ministry this afternoon.

CUT Leader: Group To Work for No-Vote Victory

PY2009192188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1634 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Santiago, 20 Sep (EFE)—Manuel Bustos, president of the Central Labor Union (CUT), has stated that his organization has agreed to work for the victory of the "no-vote" in the next plebiscite and to defend such a victory in the event of it being disregarded.

Should the "yes-vote" win, and "should it be a clean and open victory," then a new political organization should be established, and this should be evaluated in due time by union organizations and political parties, Bustos told the newspaper EL MERCURIO.

Asked about recent remarks made by Communist leader Fanny Pollarolo, that an indefinite strike would be staged should the "yes-vote" win, Bustos stated that "it is just an interpretation of the Communist Party point of view, which may be true, but the CUT has not made any statement in this regard." [passage omitted]

Bustos added: "The CUT has decided to work for the victory of the "no-vote" and to defend it in the event that it is not recognized. But we do not want to think that this victory will not be recognized."

He went on to say that he does not intend to begin a discussion on what the union organization could possibly do if the "yes-vote" wins, because it is obvious that the "no-vote" will win, and the Chilean people will be able to celebrate it on the same day as the plebiscite. [passage omitted]

The CUT leader said that since his arrival in Parral he has received several threats. "I have been harassed by anonymous telephone calls, and there is graffiti against me," he concluded.

Santiago Carabineros Communique on Rallies

PY2109012888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the chief of the Carabineros Metropolitan Zone in Santiago—date not given]

[Text] In keeping with his constitutional duty of preserving public order, the chief of the Carabineros Metropolitan Zone has deemed it appropriate to give information and to make recommendations to the people about existing regulations concerning rallies, meetings, and parades aimed at the upcoming plebiscite.

1. Regarding public meetings, it is hereby reiterated that the law defines as a public meeting that which is held in a public place such as a street, a square, a promenade, a garden, an avenue, etc., in which police regulations must naturally be observed. Organizers of public meetings or demonstrations must report them to regional or provincial authorities in writing at least 48 hours before the event. The appropriate local government official will authorize parades, demonstrations, or any type of public meeting. No partisan demonstration or public meeting will be allowed between 0000 on 3 October and 4 hours after the closing of the polling stations on 5 October, in accordance with Article 115 of Law 18,700.

Carabineros personnel have been instructed to prevent and disperse the aforementioned demonstrations and to arrest the offenders, all of whom will be placed at the disposal of the appropriate courts.

Consequently, the office of the Carabineros Metropolitan Zone deems it its duty and obligation to prevent any illegal act. Thus, it appeals to the people's understanding in obeying this special provision.

This office also urges the people, especially parents, to refrain from taking their children to mass rallies because their children could get hurt, be victimized by a crime, or simply get lost. Those children attending mass meetings should be instructed to seek the help of the nearest Carabinero if necessary.

2. Regarding traffic and the movement of vehicles on the day of the plebiscite, this office hereby reports that access of voters to polling stations will be guaranteed, as well as free traffic through streets and roads leading to those stations and to the localities or townships housing the stations.

Carabineros will be charged with controlling vehicle traffic to prevent them from interfering with the movement of pedestrians within a reasonable area. No parking will be permitted near the access to voting stations. This

measure will prevent the formation of groups of people who could disrupt public order in an area encompassing two blocks surrounding the voting station.

Carabineros will provide every possible assistance to the blind, handicapped, and senior citizens so that they may vote safely and expeditiously.

Your rights end where the rights of others begin. Carabineros believe that observance of the law will be the best guarantee for a normal, clean plebiscite. This is a reminder from your longtime friend.

PCCh Leader Teitelboim Arrives in Santiago

PY2109023888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] High-ranking PCCh leader Volodia Teitelboim criticized the centrist opposition coalition led by the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] just a few minutes after arriving at the Santiago International Airport. Teitelboim took advantage of President Augusto Pinochet's decision to put an end to exile. At the airport, he was welcomed by PCCh and United Left leaders. Some people who gathered at the airport shouted slogans in support of the outlawed PCCh while waiting for Teitelboim.

Teitelboim was repeatedly questioned about a group created by the PDC, which has been referred to as an opposition coalition of the democratic centrist sector. The group has damaged the left.

[Begin Teitelboim recording] I do not believe that exclusionary attitudes and the elimination of opposition sectors are good for the common cause of freedom and democracy. It would be best to achieve unity among all sectors. No one should be excluded in the struggle for democracy, for freedom, and for putting an end to a terrible 15-year nightmare. [end recording]

The signing of the pact of governability by the democratic centrist sector, which was criticized by Teitelboim, has been announced for Wednesday. The ceremony will be held at 1100 at the Aconcagua Hall at the Tupahue Hotel and will obviously be presidend over by top PDC leader Patricio Aylwin. The PDC leader said that the groups that promote violence—he was directly alluding to the PCCh—cannot join the pact.

Colombia

Venezuelan Consul in Medellin Wounded by Gunmen

PA2009155488 Paris AFP in Spanish 1510 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 20 Sep (AFP)—Venezuelan Consul in Medellin Luis Alberto Alduber Lopez, who was wounded this morning, is out of danger, Medellin Mayor Juan Gomez has reported.

The consul was shot in the mouth by two men who attacked him in the southeast section of Medellin, the capital of Antioquia Department, the mayor added. Gomez said the consul arrived in his own vehicle at a clinic in the western part of the city. The doctors who examined him said his wounds are not serious.

"We deplore the incident," the mayor said. Various Colombian social, economic, and political groups have condemned the attack.

Alduber Lopez was attacked at approximately 1400 GMT in the Bulerias neighborhood, near the Belen sports complex, while he was driving to his office. The gunmen who shot the consul abandoned the taxi from which they carried out the attack.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1530 GMT on 20 September adds that Alduber Lopez is Venezuela's honorary consul in Medellin.]

Ecuador

Texaco Manager on Government Oil Decision

PA2109003788 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Quito, 20 Sep (AFP)—Rodrigo Perez, assistant manager of Texaco, has said the government decision to have the Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE) administer the U.S. Texaco multinational company's consortium "was something we had expected."

Perez, as well as government spokesmen, have explained that "this is not a nationalization but simply the exercise of CEPE's rights." He also announced that Texaco will continue its work in Ecuador.

Energy and Mines Minister Diego Tamariz yesterday announced in the Ecuadoran Congress the government's decision to take over the administration of the trans-Ecuadoran oil pipeline, the CEPE-Texaco consortium, and two small refineries located on the coast.

Rodrigo Perez said the 503 km-long pipeline, which links the Amazon fields with the port of Balao, has been totally owned by Ecuador since June 1986, when it finished paying Texaco's initial 50 percent share, but the previous government renewed the administration contract with Texaco.

Regarding the consortium, which owns 70 percent of the proven crude oil reserves, totaling almost 1 billion barrels, and which extracts more than half of the 310,000 barrels a day produced in this country, Perez indicated that Texaco will keep 37.5 percent of its shares until this contract expires on 6 June 1992.

According to the contractual terms, Ecuador will make its decision official in the next few hours and it will take over the administration of the pipeline within 1 year, while after 2 years it will do so in the case of the consortium, even though it could have done so in only 1 year.

Although the CEPE-Texaco consortium ends in 1992, 1 year before that date Texaco can request the renewal of the partnership for another 10 years. This request can be denied or accepted by Ecuador.

Perez denied that Ecuador is going to obtain huge profits from the administration of the pipeline and the consortium. He explained that Texaco only receives payment for its expenses and an additional 10 percent of the operational cost of the pipeline, which it has to pay taxes on.

He indicated that of the 200 people who work on the oil pipeline, 195 are Ecuadoreans. The same percentage holds true for the consortium.

He also said the exploration that is being carried out on the coast in partnership with Pecten, a subsidiary of Shell, will continue within the framework of the 13 contracts that Ecuador signed for the exploration of nearly 4 million hectares. During a dinner with the foreign press last night, President Rodrigo Borja announced that those contracts will be absolutely respected.

Peru

Foreign Minister Leaves for Venezuela, U.S.

PY2009141588 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Peruvian Foreign Minister Luis Gonzales Posada has urged politicians, businessmen, and workers to contribute to solve the country's economic problems.

The minister said that in times of crisis everyone should pull in the same direction, and he asked that every sector contribute to the success of the economic program implemented by the government.

Minister Gonzales made this statement shortly before leaving for Venezuela and the United States, where he will remain 1 week.

In Caracas the minister will attend a SELA-organized meeting of foreign minsters.

In New York he will participate in a meeting of the Group of Eight to discuss the agenda of the presidential summit to be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in October 1988.

Guyana

Brazilian Foreign Minister Sodre Visits

Holds Talks With Jackson

FL1609232588 Bridgetown CANA in English 1758 GMT 16 Sep 88

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept. 16, CANA—Brazil's foreign minister, Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre, moved into the second day of a three-day official visit to Guyana Friday.

Sodre told a reception in his honour, hosted by Georgetown Mayor Robert Williams, that Guyana and Brazil must stand together and build their destinies together. He promised to open discussions with Guyanese authorities on ways in which Brazil can help Georgetown with its water supply.

Sodre was presented with a symbolic gold key to the city by Mayor Williams, who spoke about the mutually satisfying relations between the two countries. Sodre held the first of three rounds of talks Thursday afternoon with Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson.

He will meet with President Desmond Hoyte and Prime Minister Hamilton Green before leaving Guyana Saturday. Sodre is also expected to visit a livestock farm run by the state Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco).

On Venezuela Border Dispute

FL2009201888 Bridgetown CANA in English 2239 GMT 18 Sep 88

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 18, CANA—Brazil's Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre says the Guyana-Venezulea territorial dispute "is on its way to being solved" and once that problem is resolved a road linking Georgetown with Brazil will be built. De Abreu Sodre told reporters the road project through Guyana's vast hinterland was an "old aspiration" and was discussed last week during his three-day official visit here. He said that the discussions on the project have not been completed because the proposed road will pass through territory "where there is a problem with Venezuela." Venezuela has a long-standing historical claim to two thirds of Guyana.

De Abreu Sodre said a private Brazilian company, Paranapanema, was willing to participate in a joint venture with the Guyana Government to build the road and explore for minerals such as gold and aluminium. The Brazilian minister said these could be very profitable ventures for both Guyana and Brazil.

He noted that Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi during a recent visit to Guyana said that the problem was being overcome and "the rights of Guyana are about to be recognised." "Once this problem is solved, all we will

need is money and hard work...Paranapanema, the Guyana Government and foreign loans, together, may make this dream a reality," De Abreu Sodre said.

Plans for building the road have been discussed intermittently for about 20 years. In the 1960's there was a major self-help project which cost millions of dollars and during which a fair weather trail was hewn through the Guyana jungle and makeshift bridges laid across creeks and swamps.

However, in the midst of the Guyana-Venezuela territorial controversy, work on the project ground to a halt and it was not until about a year ago that a group of private persons revived interest in it.

The project, authoritative sources here said, could be of immense value to both Guyana and Brazil since it could open up trading activities between the two countries. At the same time, Brazil would get easy access by way of the road to port facilities which could be built in Guyana, thereby providing quicker access to Caribbean and North American markets.

Witnesses Mine Pact Signing

FL2009203088 Bridgetown CANA in English 1458 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 20, CANA—A big Brazilian company, Paranapanema, has signed an agreement with the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) incorporating a million dollar (G) local joint venture company which will search for gold at Tassawini in Guyana's north western region.

The 27-year-old Brazilian civil engineering company, considered the world's largest tin producer, had been conducting feasibility studies for local gold mining since entering into a joint venture agreement with the Guyana Government in July 1984. It has also expressed an interest in the building of a 315 kilometre U.S.25 million dollar, low-cost, hard-surface, all-weather road linking Georgetown with Brazil.

According to Paranapanema representative in Georgetown, Colin Edwards, the newly-incorporated company will be known as Paranapanema/Guyana Mining and Development LTD. One of its five directors will be Guyanese, while the other four will represent the Brazilian interests.

Edwards explained that, under the July 1984 agreement with the government, arrangements have been made for feasibility studies to be carried out at the 40,000-acre project site at Tassawini, an old open cast mine, over a four-year period. The agreement provides also for actual exploration works to be carried out if the feasibility studies indicate viability.

The company, which currently employs more than 60 persons—including about 40 Guyanese—is now in the final stages of the feasibility studies and the results should be available by next January. Paranapanema/Guyana Mining and Development LTD., Edwards explained, is being incorporated preparatory to embarking on phase two, the operating phase.

The signing of the agreement last Friday was timed to coincide with the official visit to Guyana by Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Carlos de Abreu Sodre, who witnessed the signing by Samuel Hanan of Paranapanema, and by Kenneth Bancroft, chairman of the GGMC.

At a press conference before leaving Guyana Saturday, De Abreu Sodre indicated that Paranapanema is interested in building the road linking Brazil with Georgetown in joint venture with the Guyana Government and in exploring for minerals such as aluminum.

Edwards confirmed his company's interest and said Paranapanema has submitted estimates for U.S.25 million dollars to build the road over a three year period and in three phases. He said Paranapanema is prepared to become involved on the project in a spirit of cooperation with Guyana making use of Paranapanema's and Brazil's vast experience in road construction over similar terrain. He said such a project can be of immense value to Guyana's development.